

Live social media broadcast let gymnastic fans watch Andreea Raducan Gymnastics Cup online.

Professional streaming with Axis solutions.



Organization:
Andreea Răducan Cup

Location:
Bârlad, Romania

Industry segment:
Commercial

Application:
Live streaming

Axis partners:
TeamOne Iași, NetRex

Mission

To provide access for the general public to the seventh edition of the Andreea Răducan Gymnastics Cup, organisers of the event decided to broadcast the competition on Facebook and YouTube – a feat requiring a live streaming solution.

Solution

The gymnasium inside the A.I.Cuza Technical College in Bârlad, where the event took place, used five Axis network cameras to individually monitor all competition areas. In order to coordinate and broadcast images on Facebook and YouTube, the hardware solution was completed by CamStreamer, a Netrex streaming application that can be directly deployed on Axis cameras and allows live social media and web-based broadcasts.

Result

The combination of Axis network cameras and Netrex software provided gymnastics fans the possibility to watch the entire event online. More than 120 gymnasts from 15 Romanian gymnastics clubs starred in the live broadcast which captured all of the main contest areas, uneven parallels, vault, balance beam, floor and compound individual contest, each covered by a dedicated Axis camera.



Andreea Răducan Gymnastics Cup

World-wide, gymnastics is one of the oldest and most popular sports – it has been part of the Olympics since antiquity. The modern gymnastics concept was born in the beginning of the 19th century; however, the development and large-scale popularity of the sport started with the first edition of the modern Olympic Games in 1896 in Athens. Some 18 gymnasts took part in that contest.

Andreea Răducan (born on September 30, 1983 in Bârlad, Romania) is a retired world class Romanian gymnast, writer, journalist and sports commentator. She was awarded the gold medal with the Romanian Olympic team and received the silver medal in the vault competition during the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. She also received multiple gold and silver medals in various World Gymnastics Championships. The "Andreea Răducan" Gymnastics Cup was created in 2011 as a contest aiming to bring the spirit of a big international contest to local gymnasts. The competition takes place every year in Răducan's hometown.

The Romanian Gymnastics Federation included the "Andreea Răducan" Cup in its national sports calendar. Quickly becoming a tradition for Romanian gymnasts, the seventh edition of the Cup succeeded in bringing together more than 120 gymnasts. It was the first time that the event spanned two days. The contest was dedicated to 8-10 years old gymnasts, third junior category. These young ladies competed for the final medals in five individual trials: vault; uneven parallels; balance beam; floor; and compound individual and team competitions. The annual event is organized by Andreea Răducan and the Bârlad School Sports Club.

The Axis solution, deployed by a local partner, TeamOne from Iași, included five network cameras (AXIS P1365-E Mk II, AXIS P1428-E, AXIS P3225-V MKII, AXIS Q1615-E Mk II and AXIS Q3505-V) which sent live images through a software application, CamStreamer, developed by NetRex.

The solution used doesn't need any additional equipment, as image processing is done directly by the Axis equipment. Likewise, the surveillance cameras don't need a public IP address, certain settings or firewall routings, and the configuration process is fast and intuitive.

AXIS P1365-E Mk II is an outside camera able to provide very detailed images and capture fast moving objects, even in poor light conditions. In fact, this was one of the reasons this model was selected to broadcast the parallel bars competition. It comes with 1080P at 60fps video recording capabilities and benefits from Axis Zipstream technology, which decreases the bandwidth and storage necessary.

AXIS P1428-E is a compact, bullet-type model, which comes equipped with a video sensor that offers 4K resolution at 30fps. Consequently, the camera was able to provide detailed images and was ideal for covering very large areas. Thanks to this feature, this model was chosen to live stream the floor evolutions.

AXIS P3225-V MKII comes equipped with a varifocal lens and a P-Iris control system, thus providing optimal clarity and very good depth focus. Due to WDR – Forensic Capture and Lightfinder technologies, the camera can provide superior performance under all light conditions. Adding the fact that the camera is an easy to deploy, dome-type makes it ideal for being deployed inside a gymnasium like the one in Bârlad. This model was chosen to be used to live stream the horizontal bar competition.





AXIS Q1615-E Mk II is the first camera in the world equipped with an i-CS smart lens, thus providing superior performance in capturing fast moving objects even in poor light conditions. The camera comes with three preset profiles for three different deployment scenarios. It automatically optimizes exposure times, white balance, focal opening, image clarity, contrast and noise level for each profile. AXIS Q1615-E Mk II camera provides 100-120 fps for 720p and up to 50-60 fps for 1080p. It can withstand temperatures down to minus 40 Celsius degrees and comes equipped with IP66, NEMA 4X and IK10 protection. This camera was chosen to live stream the vault competition, because this activity requires a fast and precise sensor.

AXIS Q3505-V Mk II was a perfect match for the deployment scenario engineered for the live broadcast of the event. Due to its dome-type build, it is easy to deploy in any environment and provides a very good coverage of large areas. It offers video captures of 1080p for 50/60 fps or 720p for 100/120 fps and is ideal for fast moving scenery. It comes equipped with Zipstream technology, which dramatically reduces the bandwidth needed without compromising image quality. The camera is very good for poor light conditions due to Lightfinder and Forensic WDR technologies. This camera was used to stream an overview image of the location.

"This project – the broadcasting of the Andreea Răducan Gymnastics Cup – meant a perfect opportunity for us to prove both the technical superiority of the products we sell and our commitment to promote high performance sports." - Liviu Lăbuș, TeamOne Iași Manager.

Conclusion

The Andreea Răducan Gymnastics Cup was viewed on social media channels more than 100,000 times over the two competition days. The technical solution used expands capabilities and functionalities of the IP surveillance cameras. CamStreamer doesn't need a public IP address or complex settings for the router or the firewall. This first event paved the way for a series of other live-stream sport activities powered by Axis Communications, from the Polo International Competition to the 2017 National Romania Gymnastics Championship.

"We looked for a trusted partner, able to quickly and easily deploy a professional streaming solution and we found such a partner in Axis Communications. Both ourselves and the fans that couldn't come to the event, greatly enjoyed the live broadcast of the gymnasts' performances."

Andreea Răducan.



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Liviu Lăbuș, TeamOne Iași Manager.



About Axis Communications

Axis offers intelligent security solutions that enable a smarter, safer world. As the market leader in network video, Axis is driving the industry by continually launching innovative network products based on an open platform - delivering high value to customers through a global partner network. Axis has long-term relationships with partners and provides them with knowledge and ground-breaking network products in existing and new markets.

Axis has more than 2,600 dedicated employees in more than 50 countries around the world, supported by a global network of over 90,000 partners. Founded in 1984, Axis is a Sweden-based company listed on NASDAQ Stockholm under the ticker AXIS.

For more information about Axis, please visit our website www.axis.com.