

TÜV Rheinland “Supersizes” Field Evaluation Services for Largest Stadium Display in North America

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BACKGROUND

TÜV Rheinland has field evaluated and labeled two 3,385-inch video displays at the home stadium of the NFL's Houston Texans and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. Installed by Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, the Diamond Vision displays measure 14,549 sq. ft. each and are the largest video displays of any US stadium in professional sports.

The screens are constructed from thousands of individual modules, which are tied to controllers that pull the giant matrix into one cohesive unit visible to the viewer. To provide a superior fan experience, similar displays are being installed at the largest and most popular entertainment, professional and collegiate sports venues across the US and Canada. TÜV Rheinland has field tested and labeled video screens at more than 50 venues, including the big screens in Dallas, Tex. and at Times Square in New York City.

BUSINESS CHALLENGE AND BENEFITS

Electrical installations are required to be Listed or inspected and Labeled to US ANSI/NEC requirements before being put into use to gain the acceptance of the local AHJ (Building code official, fire marshal, city, state or county inspectors). Listing an entire sports screen made of thousands of modules is impossible before leaving the manufacturing facility as the final assembly is built directly into the stadium.

Leaving the entire evaluation to be completed in the field is also nearly impossible as there is no way to economically fully test every module arriving on-site to be installed into the stadium. Adding to the challenge, the modules used for these installations are manufactured internationally. The key to this challenge for the installer was to find a partner that operates globally and has the ability to qualify the component modules to US standards and one that can conduct a field evaluation of the final assembly that will be accepted by the local AHJ.

Enter TÜV Rheinland. TÜV Rheinland was able to provide a single cost-effective solution that provided the manufacturer the ability to label all production modules using staff local to the international manufacture in Japan. Those modules were then used in the installation of the complete big screen which was then able to be cost effectively field evaluated by TÜV Rheinland staff local to the installation site in North America. Project coordination and engineering and inspections teams were managed through one central contact that was able to insure smooth project management. One company. Global Reach. Job well done - on time, on budget and accepted for use.

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