

# 2017 SHANGHAI ATP MASTERS TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Amplifying the on-court action with powerful stadium Wi-Fi



## CASE STUDY



### OVERVIEW

The Shanghai Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Masters is one of the world's biggest tennis tournaments, and the only one in the series to be staged outside both North America and Europe. The nine-day event played to daily crowds of more than 15,000, and 2017 culminated in an epic men's final between Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Improve wireless networking services for both on-site staff and media workers, to enable reliable, fast data transfer rates in a busy environment
- Provide stable and high-speed Wi-Fi to professional photographers in the media area, so that they can quickly supply high-definition digital pictures to the media centre to meet deadlines
- Provide stable and interference-free Wi-Fi network for both reporters and editors in the media centre
- Expand existing high-speed wireless Internet access with a scalable network solution that is simple to install and test

### SOLUTION

- A variety of indoor and outdoor access points (APs) and ZoneDirector controllers were deployed for secure and reliable access

### BENEFITS

- Ruckus patented Beamflex+ adaptive antenna technology addressed the issues of high device density and application bandwidth consumption, and provided both media and photographers with a strong and consistent connection
- Media workers leveraged excellent network connectivity to deliver live broadcasts and online coverage, seamlessly and instantaneously
- Ruckus solutions enabled better network connectivity, as well as ease of Wi-Fi network management
- Minimized total cost of ownership in IT investment

## ACHIEVING MORE FROM THE STADIUM WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE

The 2017 Shanghai ATP Masters tournament was held over nine days at the Qizhong Tennis Center on October 8–15, ending with Roger Federer defeating Rafael Nadal in the finals to earn his second tournament title in the city.

A daily crowd of more than 15,000 people witnessed the matches at a stadium renowned for its high standards and quality of play, along with top-notch hospitality from organizers as well as the reception of the Chinese public. Also known as the Shanghai Rolex Masters, the event remains a favorite for players on the ATP World Tour circuit.

To better prepare for this event and provide an even more compelling media experience, the organizer needed a smart Wi-Fi network which would be easy to install, simple to manage, and cost-effective.

### THE CHALLENGES

The Shanghai ATP Masters plays a significant role in the global tennis scene. Hundreds of media professionals and staff are present at the event, creating an environment with a high density of mobile phones, tablets and PC users. Furthermore, interference from various wireless signals in the area has the potential to impact wireless performance around critical zones such as the media center.

Reporters and editors covering the tournament required a stable and interference-free Wi-Fi network to let them share timely news reports. Their job demands quick delivery with both edited and live footage back to their local or global headquarters so high-speed Wi-Fi is a must. A high-performing Wi-Fi network is a critical aspect of the tournament setup.

"The Shanghai ATP Masters management team is responsible for all aspects of the event and must ensure that everything runs flawlessly," said Hans Xi, IT manager of Shanghai Juss Event Management Co. Ltd. "Large-scale sporting events present a number of challenges for efficient and high-performance network deployment. Solutions need to be easy to install, easy to debug, stable, and simple to manage."

### THE SOLUTION

Working closely with China Telecom, the exclusive sponsor of the tournament, along with organizer Shanghai Juss Event Management Co. Ltd., Ruckus was chosen to power the networking infrastructure for the event venue. A variety of indoor and outdoor Ruckus' access points (APs) were deployed across a number of installation sites, with an eye towards

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“After successfully cooperating with Ruckus on the Longines Global Champions Tour and IAAF Diamond League, we’re pleased to say that Ruckus is now a close partner. The Ruckus name holds a strong reputation in the industry, and we really appreciate the consistency in technology that the company continues to bring. We are looking forward to partnering together in the future.”

### HANS XI

IT manager  
Shanghai Juss Event Management Co. Ltd.

maximizing network connectivity and stability, with minimal interference, especially in areas which would see high traffic from members of the media covering the tournament.

Ruckus was able to complete deployment of the APs and controllers in a month, and in addition, the Ruckus solution required less APs and other network equipment such as cabling, while being able to deliver the same coverage across the numerous installation sites, providing Shanghai Juss Event Management with better value for their investment, while also delivering better and more stable network connectivity for a superior user experience.

### THE BENEFITS

Ruckus offers state-of-the-art Wi-Fi technology built for performance in large public venues. With innovations like smart roaming and band steering, and patented Beamflex+ adaptive antenna technology, members of the media were able to deliver timely and accurate news reports. This was especially instrumental during the men’s finals when Roger Federer played Rafael Nadal, as reporters were under pressure to share live action with the public, while professional photographers constantly sent digital photos of the action wirelessly to the media center.

As the media center featured extremely high data traffic density, the Ruckus APs deployed in the vicinity delivered superior performance and reliability. The fast and reliable network with fewer dropped packets enabled the editors to quickly compile information transmitted by photojournalists into media stories headlined by high-definition images and rich content, for timely dissemination to the various media platforms represented at the tournament.

Throughout the tournament, each Ruckus AP provided connectivity to an average of nearly 400 terminals daily, with almost 70% of data traffic assigned to mobile devices, while the rest was distributed between connected tablets, PCs and laptop devices. All in all, the total bandwidth consumed came up to about 339GB each day over Wi-Fi.

“Ruckus is an expert in providing a high-performance network connection for high-density public environments including convention centers and stadiums—and we are the preferred choice for sporting events around the world,” said William Ho, senior vice president of sales, Asia Pacific, ARRIS. “The Shanghai ATP Masters is a strong endorsement to Ruckus’ capabilities, and leadership in delivering simply better connections to public venues everywhere.”

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