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2024

Streaming 8–10 Hours of Professional Disc Golf Competition per Event Day Using AWS with DGPT

Feedback

Learn how Disc Golf Pro Tour used AWS to live stream content with virtually no outages and create instantly available recordings.

Benefits

Over 30

events streamed over the 2024 DGPT season

8–10 hours

of high-quality live streams per event day

Near-zero

outages even with limited connectivity

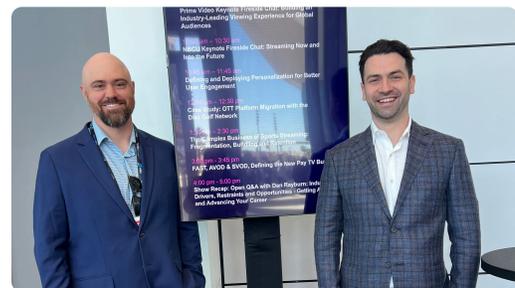
3

subscriber tiers instead of 1 for Disc Golf Network



Overview

Since the first world championship in 1982, professional disc golf has grown steadily in the number of players, spectators, and online viewers. The [Disc Golf Pro Tour](#) (DGPT) live streams over 30 events a year through the Disc Golf Network—its subscriber channel and over-the-top platform. But the organization faced several challenges with its previous streaming partner. So, it decided to migrate its Disc Golf Network to Amazon Web Services (AWS) for a stable and scalable service that would help improve security and user experience.



About Disc Golf Pro Tour

Founded in 2016, the Disc Golf Pro Tour (DGPT) is a high-level competition in professional disc golf. DGPT organizes tours in the United States and Europe and streams them through its subscription-based video-streaming channel, the Disc Golf Network.

Opportunity | Using AWS MAP and AWS Partner Insys to Create a Reliable Streaming Channel for DGPT

Founded in 2016, DGPT is the world's leading professional disc golf tour, providing professional players with opportunities to compete in elite tournaments worldwide. It is also the Official Pro Tour of the Professional Disc Golf Association, the governing body for the sport.

Since 2020, DGPT has streamed its tournaments through its own subscriber network—the Disc Golf Network. Broadcasting these tournaments can be challenging because many venues are in remote areas with limited network connectivity, which might lead to service outages. DGPT worked with an online broadcast partner and had a physical control room to stream content. In 2021, it migrated the control room to the cloud on AWS to help stabilize live streams.

When the substantial growth of the DGPT began outpacing the development timelines and capabilities of its previous over-the-top provider, the company needed to explore new options. “Many feature requests to our partner went unanswered, and timelines were pushed back,” says Jeff Spring, CEO and tour director at DGPT. One of the unavailable features was pausing or rewinding live streams; another was making recordings of live events available instantly instead of 2–4 hours after the event. Broadcast quality was a concern too. DGPT recorded videos at 60 frames per second—the ideal speed to capture the gameplay—but the legacy partner’s settings forced a down conversion of the stream to 30 frames per second.

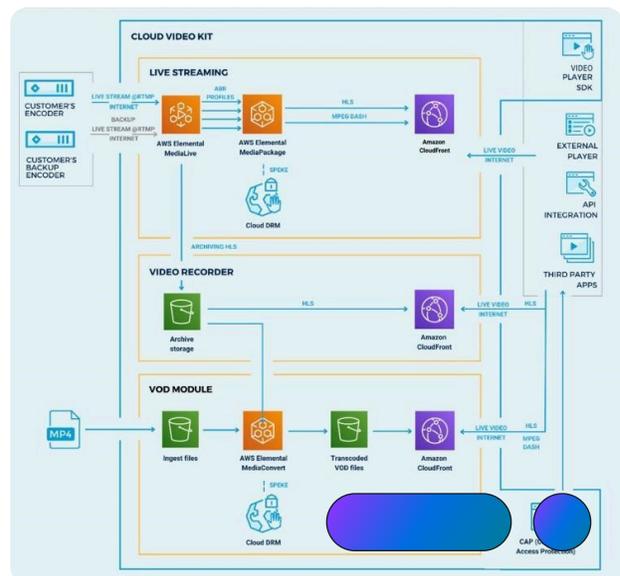
Server outages at the partner’s end further impacted the viewer experience. “We had moments when the servers crashed at the final hole because of spikes in traffic,” says Jeffrey Tocci, director of broadcast technology at DGPT. Brand value suffered when video outages occurred at key moments with high viewership. DGPT didn’t have protection of digital rights management either, which meant that its copyrighted footage was not secure against piracy.

The technical limitations hampered the marketing and revenue-earning potential of live feeds too. “Our inability to pause and rewind the feed made it difficult to run a live social media strategy,” says Zachary Kuykendall, marketing director at DGPT. The organization had to set up a redundancy stream for



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Architecture Diagram



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“Our studio in the cloud on AWS helps us to be very versatile and mobile.”

Jeff Spring

CEO and Tour Director, Disc Golf Pro Tour

AWS Services Used



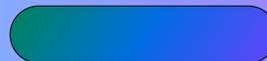
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