

# CITIZENS BANK PARK

## INTEGRATING SOUND AND MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

A COMMUNITY CASE STUDY - SEPTEMBER, 2010

### ABOUT CITIZENS BANK PARK

Citizens Bank Park opened in April 2004 as the home of the Philadelphia Phillies Major League Baseball team. Located in South Philadelphia, the ballpark seats 43,651 fans. The Phillies were on track to draw over 3.6 million spectators during the 2010 season for the second consecutive year.

Designed with fans in mind, Citizens Bank Park offers intimate seating close to the field, fabulous views of downtown Philadelphia, and family entertainment areas. It placed first in a 2010 survey ranking all 30 Major League stadiums by Sports Travel and Tours. The Phillies have enjoyed tremendous success since moving into the ballpark. In 2008, they captured their first World Series Championship since 1980.



### THE SOUND SYSTEM

Baseball stadiums use their sound systems to identify players coming to bat, make game and promotional announcements, and play music between innings and during other downtime. With thousands of cheering fans, a ballpark gets extremely loud, which makes it a difficult sound environment. “A baseball park sound system must be designed first and foremost to be intelligible,” said Kevin Day of Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc., who consulted on Citizens Bank Park. “Community loudspeakers have the mid-range power and headroom to provide excellent voice reinforcement.”



Day explained how both the architect, Ewing Cole, Philadelphia, PA and owner wanted a system that would have a long life expectancy and not deteriorate during the offseason. Philadelphia has rough winters, so the loudspeakers needed the capability to withstand cold inclement weather.

The solution was a sound system based on Community Professional Loudspeakers' WET (Weather Environmental Technology) Series and R-Series. Citizens Bank Park has 1,365 total loudspeakers in a distributed system. The sound system includes 365 of Community's WET2W8. Other models are the WET215, WET315, WET312, WET322, WET920, R.5, and R2. The installation team was led by project engineer Justo Gutierrez and project manager Skip Warrington from AVI-SPL, a leader in audio and video



## SOUND SYSTEM (CONTINUED)

communications solutions. The team also used BSS Soundweb DSP and an Allen & Heath GL Series console. QSC amplification drives the loudspeakers.

“Architectural coordination of loudspeaker locations can be the success or failure of a distributed loudspeaker system,” said Day when asked about the biggest challenges they faced at Citizens Bank Park. “The speaker locations must be carefully planned to provide a system with uniform loudness and intelligibility. There is a lot of pressure on system designers to keep the loudspeakers hidden out of sight. Many loudspeakers at this ballpark had to be installed on the fascia of the upper deck and not tucked under the overhang as desired by the architect. The fascia location avoided the sound buildup under the deck and allowed for a more uniform frequency response and loudness for all the lower deck seats.”

Day concluded that the sound system worked well right from the start, and continues to provide excellent



## EQUIPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 365 Community WET2W8 loudspeakers
- 74 Community WET215-99 loudspeakers
- 38 Community R.5-94T loudspeakers (custom red)
- 4 Community R2-694 loudspeakers
- QSC amplification
- BSS Soundweb DSP
- Allen & Heath GL Series Console

## THE LOUDSPEAKERS

### WET Series II



Community's WET Series has long been known for delivering exceptional speech and music performance under the most extreme weather conditions. The latest upgrade to WET Series II was introduced in 2007 with a number of significant improvements.



### R-Series

There is a Community R-Series for every installation. Highly weather-resistant for outdoor applications, but very appropriate for indoor use as well, the R-Series offers exceptional voice clarity and sound projection capability.



### Custom Color R.5

Custom color red R.5-94T loudspeakers blend into the architecture and greet the fans of Citizens Bank Park.

Download our R-Series Application Guide and All-Weather/All-Purpose Product Catalog from [www.communitypro.com](http://www.communitypro.com).

*Community has been a leading supplier of professional loudspeaker systems since 1968. Headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, Community distributes its products to over fifty countries on six continents.*