Encore: 2014 Public Report, a report on Nashville's Bridgestone Arena, is issued for the benefit of Metropolitan Government, Metro Sports Authority, the citizens of Nashville and the Greater Middle Tennessee community. Bridgestone Arena is owned by Metropolitan Government, managed and operated by Powers Management and is home to the National Hockey League's Nashville Predators.

Constructed by Metropolitan Government and the citizens of Nashville, Bridgestone Arena opened in 1996. On an annual basis, the public-use facility is home to more than 100 events, including concerts, shows and live entertainment performances, and home games of the Nashville Predators, the Arena’s primary tenant. With its timeless design, including the Broadway Avenue radio tower that is iconic of Music City, USA and the location in the heart of Nashville’s entertainment and tourism district, Bridgestone Arena is one of the most vibrant and successful public event facilities in the world.
On Feb. 21, Pollstar Magazine named Bridgestone Arena their 2014 Arena of the Year. Bridgestone Arena took home the top venue honors after being named a finalist 11 times, including each of the past eight years. The Arena has the distinction of being one of the busiest venues in the United States over the past decade and a half and was named the sixth-busiest building in the U.S. by Pollstar in 2010, 2011 and 2013 and was named the Academy of Country Music’s Large Capacity Venue of the Year in March 2014.
STRAIGHT YEARS THAT THE COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION HAS HOSTED ITS ANNUAL AWARDS SHOW AT BRIDGESTONE ARENA, MOST RECENTLY IN NOVEMBER 2014.

In addition to the CMA Awards, Bridgestone Arena also hosts the CMT Music Awards on top of countless stars and acts over the course of a year. During 2014, the Arena hosted seven shows of Ringling Barnum and Bailey’s Circus, Keith Urban, Imagine Dragons, Bruce Springsteen, George Strait, Miley Cyrus, Katie Perry, Billy Joel, Journey, Kiss and Def Leppard, Ed Sheeran, 10 shows of Disney on Ice: Frozen, Justin Timberlake, Paul McCartney, the CMA Country Christmas, The Black Keys and more.

CONSECUTIVE SEC BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS BRIDGESTONE ARENA WILL HOST BETWEEN 2015 AND 2026.

The historic deal securing Nashville and Bridgestone Arena as home of the SEC was announced by the Nashville Sports Council in October 2013. The SEC Men’s Basketball Tournament will be hosted nine times (2016-2017, 2019-2021, 2023-2025) and the SEC Women’s Basketball Tournament will be hosted three times (2018, 2022, 2026).

Past SEC Championships held in Nashville have averaged $15.9 million in economic impact for the city, with more than 181,000 guests visiting the Music City during the event. Over the course of 12 SEC Championships hosted between 2015 and 2026, Nashville is slated to gain more than $164 million dollars.


In April 2014, Bridgestone Arena hosted the NCAA Women’s Final Four and in the past has served as host to various rounds of the NCAA men’s basketball tournament (2000, 2003, 2005, 2012). The Arena will host the first and second rounds of the 2018 NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament where eight teams will play with the winners advancing to the Sweet Sixteen.
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Dollars, in millions, that the 2016 NHL All-Star Weekend is estimated to generate for the Music City when the Nashville Predators and the City of Nashville host the event in January 2016.

The planning committee includes representatives from local businesses and local entertainment leaders such as Vince Gill, Bridgestone’s Chris Karbowiak, CMA CEO Sarah Trahern and Mayor Karl Dean.
In a study completed in 2012, it was estimated that Bridgestone Arena generates an annual economic impact of approximately $410 million for the city of Nashville. The Arena’s busy events calendar translates into increased tax revenue collection for both Metro Government and public education and attracts out-of-market patrons for events that transform into associated hotel, food and entertainment spending. A catalyst for downtown growth, since the Arena’s opening in 1996, new neighbors include the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Schermerhorn Symphony Center and Music City Center, and hundreds of millions of dollars in private development.
The screen, designed by PixelFLEX, is the world’s first convex curved 2mm LED wall and is used for covering all stages of the game, including a live panoramic view of the ice.

The Lexus Lounge, opened at the start of the 2014-15 season, is Bridgestone Arena’s Performers’ Level Club that offers luxurious amenities such as personal concierge service, plush seating and special-themed buffets at both hockey games and arena events. This exclusive club provides an unparalleled experience of luxury, relaxation and excitement with unprecedented access to players and other VIPs.

The new Team Store was just one of countless renovations that have been ongoing at Bridgestone Arena.

On Jan. 9, 2014, the Arena opened the NISSAN SoBro entrance at the corner of Fifth Ave. and Demonbreun, uniting the arena with the Music City Center and other new businesses south of Broadway. Additional renovations during the 2013-14 season included the installation of a new HVAC system, new carpet on several levels, exterior LED boards and the opening of Tavern ‘96, the Arena’s first full-time restaurant.

In addition to the new Team Store, Bridgestone Arena’s summer of 2014 facelift included new furniture, lighting and an enhanced menu at The Patron Platinum Club and free WiFi arena-wide.
During the 2014-15 regular season, the Predators sold-out 30 of 41 home games, establishing a franchise record and playing to more than 98 percent capacity for the season as a whole. Since the start of the 2013-14 season, the Predators have sold-out 49 home games, including 17,401 in attendance on Dec. 30, 2014 vs. St. Louis, the largest capacity crowd in the history of Nashville Predators hockey.
GUESTS THAT HAVE VISITED FORD ICE CENTER IN ITS FIRST SIX MONTHS.
The number includes more than 600 youth and adult hockey players, 40,000 “Learn to Skate” and public skating participants, friends and family.

Ford Ice Center, which the Predators opened in conjunction with Metro Sports Authority, is located in Antioch, Tenn., and is home to the Nashville Predators’ Amateur and Adult Hockey Leagues, the Scott Hamilton Skating Academy, several high school and university club hockey teams and the Nashville Jr. Predators travel hockey organization.

DOLLARS THAT THE NASHVILLE PREDATORS FOUNDATION DONATED IN CASH TO MIDDLE TENNESSEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS DURING THE 2013-14 SEASON.
Established in 1998, the Predators Foundation strives to meet the educational, social, health and cultural needs of the community by offering unique resources and financial support to local youth-oriented organizations, awarding more than $4 million to the greater Nashville community through grants and other charitable donations such as player ticket programs and fund-raising efforts.

Through the Nashville Predators Foundation and the 365 Pediatric Cancer Fund presented by Dollar General, the Nashville Predators have made donations totaling more than $800,000 to the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt and its programs over the past five years. In September 2014, Nashville Predators Captain Shea Weber and starting goaltender Pekka Rinne presented a check from the 365 Pediatric Cancer Fund totaling more than $318,000 in cash and in-kind donations, the largest donation the Preds have ever given to the hospital.