

Technical Tip

NFL Thursday Night and Sunday Ticket Scheduler

COM3000 can schedule a channel change to temporarily add Thursday Night Football and NFL Sunday Ticket games to a commercial property line up.

Thursday night NFL scheduler requires COM51 Software version ST04.02.21 or higher.

The system will switch predetermined channels to NFL Sunday Ticket and Thursday Night Football games, then return to the normal channels when the games have completed playing.

To setup the scheduler, enter the DIRECTV channel numbers of the programming to be temporarily replaced in the Thursday Night Football and NFL Sunday Ticket Scheduler at the bottom of the COM51 EPG tab as shown below.

Select the appropriate checkboxes for Red Zone, Sunday, and Thursday. Selecting the Thursday check box will change the first channel in the "Replace chan list:" field to switch to the NFL Thursday Football game.

NFL Sunday Ticket Scheduler

Replace channels "230,245,263" when the NFL Sunday Ticket channels are active.

Replace chan list:

Red Zone

Sunday

Thursday

The guide information is not changed so the guide will continue to show the original channels.

Thursday Night Football

Thursday Night Football is available on channel 9526 on DIRECTV Business and Commercial accounts subscribing to selected packages shown below:

Commercial/Business Packages

BUSINESS ENTERTAINMENT PACK | BUSINESS XTRA PACK | COMERCIAL MAS ULTRA PACK |
COMMERCIAL CHOICE PLUS | COMMERCIAL ENTERTAINMENT PACK | COMMERCIAL XTRA PACK |
COMMERCIAL FLIGHTPACK_VIASAT

Lodging & Institutions Packages

ULTIMATE | ENTERTAINMENT | XTRA

Bandwidth Considerations

One may think it would be best practice to choose less popular programming to be replaced by Thursday Night Football and NFL Sunday Ticket games, but care must be taken when selecting the channels to be used. The Sunday ticket games are high bandwidth channels, often with extended peak bandwidths of 18MBPS.

If you select a channel that is combined on the same QAM with high bandwidth channels (locals , sports, premium) there is a chance of overdriving the bandwidth of the QAM when anNFL game is added as the third programming channel, causing failures of all three channels or possibly the whole QAM modulator.

Let's consider 3 channels on a QAM

Programming per QAM	Peak bandwidth
Local channel	10MBPS
Sports programming	12MBPS
Low bandwidth channel (HGTV)	6MBPS

Considering the variable bit rate nature of the channels in this case it would be unusual for the total bandwidth of the three channels to exceed 30MBPS.

If HGTV was replaced with an NFL game at 18MBPS the bandwidth of the QAM (38.8MBPS) could be exceeded rather easily.

Properties may leave in-room collateral information directing guests to the DIRECTV website for game day schedules, which may entice them to purchase the package for their home service.