

Common Steps to Maintaining LED Displays

LED displays are an investment. And like any other investment they will require regular maintenance to prolong lifespan and retain functionality. Maintenance of LED equipment will differ based upon the installation environment.

Indoor Facility LED

LED boards installed indoors typically see fewer issues than those located outside in the elements. Though this does not mean that the boards should see any less regular maintenance. The number one issue for indoor boards is internal heat within the panels.

Heat buildup can be caused by a variety of issues, but primarily dust is the culprit that causes failures. Within each panel there are air intake vents to allow for cooling of the power supplies and modules. These vents should have filters installed preventing dust and other contaminants from reaching sensitive equipment.

Dirty, clogged filters will not allow for sufficient airflow in the panel and, in turn, increase the internal temperature. If prolonged, this increased heat level will shorten the life of power supplies, data cards and LED modules alike.

Besides dust, another common contaminant is confetti or debris from pyrotechnics that have been utilized within the facility during a celebration. The result of this type of debris entering boards is not immediate, but it self-evident in time when a panel is opened in search of an issue and confetti falls out.

Outdoor LED

LED boards installed out in the elements of mother nature have additional maintenance items to consider. While dust and debris will still be a factor, outdoor boards primarily fail due to water intrusion from rainwater or field sprinkling systems.

During a routine filter cleaning process, LED panels should be inspected for any signs of water in the cabinet or edges of modules. Water in the bottom of cabinets can result from a door being improperly closed, failed seals from the top or backside of the cabinet, or water running through cable passthroughs from a neighboring panel. Water on the edges of modules typically is the result of failed gaskets or improperly locked modules in the face of the LED.

For LED displays that are installed on or near field level and exposed to any sprinklers for the sod of the field, it is suggested that the boards remain powered on to prevent internal condensation building up on the electronics.

Cleaning the face of the LED board may also be considered every 2-3 years to keep the display looking its best. In areas of the country with high pollen or dust, a cleaning solution consisting primarily of water and a very small amount of light soap may be required to remove build up.

Maintenance Service

Southpaw Service offers routine LED display maintenance as a part of nearly every Service Agreement offered to clients. If you would like to receive more information on how Southpaw can assist in maintaining your LED investment please give us a call at (469) 299-4111 or email us at service@southpawlive.com.