



# Ernest-Wallon Stadium, Toulouse, France

## Iconic Stadium Improves Turf Quality with Rain Bird® Products

Stade Toulousain, France's most famous rugby team, plays at Ernest-Wallon Stadium. The stadium's synthetic and natural turf is meticulously maintained to host a variety of training sessions and competitions.

### THE CHALLENGE

Ernest-Wallon Stadium consists of a reinforced natural main pitch, a natural grass training pitch, and two high-quality synthetic pitches. Its numerous facilities provide year-round sports play, so the watering system needs to meet precise turf conditions while optimizing the irrigation window between games.

### THE SOLUTION:

Stade Toulousain and installation contractor Arnaud Sports chose Rain Bird products to effectively wet the artificial turf and water the natural pitches. A new, intelligent irrigation system will be efficient, user-friendly, and just what the stadium needs.



XLR Series Water Jets

#### Core Products Used:

- [XLR Series Water Jets](#)
- [IQ™ Central Control](#)
- [ESP-LX Series Controllers](#)
- [IQ NCC Ethernet Cartridges](#)
- [PGA Series Valves](#)

#### KEY OBJECTIVES

- ✓ **Maintain Turf Quality**
- ✓ **Optimize Irrigation Schedules**
- ✓ **Improve Water Efficiency**
- ✓ **Enable Remote Management**



## Site Report: Ernest-Wallon Stadium, Toulouse, France

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### APPROACH:

## Enable Remote Access and Centralized Control

Rain Bird will install ESP-LX Series modular controllers connected to an IQ Central Control System, allowing for remote management of watering zones. This will allow coaches to access the system from their smartphone and wet the synthetic fields before training. Station-specific weather sensors will also collect weather data and automatically adjust water application to meet precise requirements of the natural turf fields.

## Enhance the Playing Surface

Featuring advanced barrel and nozzle technologies to maximize throw and minimize pressure loss, the XLR Water Jet will be perfect for wetting the artificial turf before play or during breaks. Easy to install and built for durability, these jets will quickly and efficiently water large areas without flooding or pooling the playing surface.



“ The pitch is usable 10 hours a day in all weather conditions, and it is refreshed by an automatic irrigation system so that it is less abrasive, especially for rugby ground play.

MEHDI MENNAL  
ARNAUD SPORTS



### RESULTS:

## The Perfect Pitch

The upgraded irrigation system keeps the natural turf lush and healthy. The artificial turf watering system makes it easy to wet the fields prior to games, providing a faster playing surface, increased ball bounce, and decreased risk of skin burns and player injuries. Following the success of Rain Bird's solutions for the synthetic field, Stade Toulousian has even extended the IQ Central Control System to additional training grounds.