

British International School of Chicago, South Loop



IRRIGATION CONTRACTOR

Aquamist Plumbing and Lawn Sprinkling Co. Inc.

END USER

British International School of Chicago, South Loop

RAIN BIRD PRODUCTS

- QF Dripline Header
- XFD On-Surface Dripline
- ESP-SMTe Series Smart Irrigation Control System

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The British International School of Chicago, South Loop has built a new 98,000 square foot state-of-the-art campus, including a 20,000 square foot public roof top park. The project is LEED Silver certified. The roof top park has synthetic turf, shrubs, and trees, as well as walking paths and a dog run for the public to enjoy. XFD Dripline was chosen to irrigate the shrubs and trees, and was installed using the QF Dripline Header. The ESP-SMTe Series Smart Irrigation Control System and weather station was also installed to provide accurate, weather-based control of irrigation schedules.

CHALLENGE:

The park consists of many curved planting beds that flank the walking paths. To get the dripline supply header to lay flush against the curves it would require a great number of PVC fittings and pipe, plus higher number of labor hours to build. Another challenge was choosing the right irrigation control system that could factor in weather conditions such as temperature, wind and rainfall accumulation with soil type to calculate precise irrigation amounts so that the plants thrived without being over watered.

RESULTS:

The QF Dripline Header saved the installation team time and the school money. The flexible header is designed to replace the traditional method of gluing PVC together to build of header onsite. Instead, the QF Dripline Header is an all-in-one header with preinstalled, 360-degree rotating barbs spaced either 12 or 18 inches apart. The rotating barbs and guaranteed spacing, and flexible tubing makes the QF header ideal for curved landscapes.

The team estimated that it saved 15-20% of installation time. Michael Buttron, Designer and Account Manager for Aquamist, raved about the product, "QF Header was a lifesaver. It was really easy to use. It was one of the few products that was built specifically for the irrigation installer. It removed complexity and enabled fast installation of the dripline."

The also flexible XFD Dripline made for a smart choice due to its pressure-compensating emitter design, which allows for precise delivery of water to the plants' root zones. In addition, the use of the ESP-SMTe Series Smart Irrigation Control System and weather station saves between 30-70% of water used to irrigate the park, saving the school money. It provides the accuracy of weather-based control, calculating exactly how much to adjust the watering schedule to provide precise watering to the plant life, keeping the plants at their optimal health.