

2017 Stade Toulousain New Artificial Pitch



2017 Stade Toulousain Training Center

New Artificial Pitch and Central Control Management

The Stade Toulouse evolves at the Ernest-Wallon stadium. The club has won the French rugby union championship nineteen times and is also four-time European champion, making him the most successful French and European club.

In 2013, a new training center of the Stade Toulousain opens its doors on the Ernest-Wallon site. Among the most ambitious in Europe (3 million euros invested). In 2016 it is complemented by the creation of a high-end synthetic pitch of 9000m² homologated by the rugby federation. "The pitch is usable ten 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," says Mehdi Mennal, representing Arnaud Sports, the contractor in charge of the installation of the synthetic field.

To wet the pitch, the Stade Toulousain and the company Arnaud Sport have trusted Rain Bird to install the new XLR Water Jet.

For the occasion, the synthetic field was also used as a pilot project to implement a centralized IQ Cloud management and thus better measure the water inputs on the field and offer maximum flexibility to the ground keeper in charge of the site. A smartphone access was also created for coaches wishing to wet the field before training.

With the Stade Toulousain having been convinced, the IQ Cloud central control system has been extended to other training grounds.

Rain Bird Products:

- New XLR Water Jet
- 3" valves Serie 100
- ESP-LXME
- Ethernet IQ NCC cartridge
- Central Control System IQ Cloud



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The Rain Bird product choice

The Stade Toulousain selected Rain Bird products to water the artificial turf and all the natural pitches.

The artificial pitch is equipped with the new XLR Water Jet bringing Highly uniform distribution which effectively irrigate large areas without flooding or pooling in overwatered zones.

The XLR are controlled by 3" valves Serie 100 by way of a ESP-LXME controller.

The ESP-LXME is connected to Rain Bird's new IQ Cloud central control management system providing optimization of the irrigation window between games. An NCC cartridge allows the computer to communicate with the controller via an Ethernet connection. The Stade Toulousain chose to use an Ethernet connection rather than any of the other connection options offered by the IQ system (radio, GPRS, Wifi).

Artificial turf irrigation

Installation of a watering system for artificial turf surfaces is recommended as it provides many advantages:

- Watering artificial turf decreases the potential risk of injury to players, especially skin burns.
- Watering washes away any dust, pollutants and minimizes the smell of rubber from the infill.
- Provides increased ball bounce and a faster playing surface.
- Stabilizes the surface infill.
- Decreases turf wear and tear.

