

Precision irrigation crucial for Ankara course grow-in

Rain Bird has installed its IC System on new Turkish golf course and is already receiving rave reviews

The first Rain Bird IC System to be installed in Turkey has already proved invaluable during the grow-in of the new 18-hole course at Regnum Golf & Country Club Ankara.

Designed by Tim Lobb and set in 200 hectares of rolling terrain, the course provides breathtaking vistas of the surrounding mountain ranges and the capital city.

Following a tender, the Regnum Group selected Rain Bird Turkey as its irrigation partner and the Rain Bird

IC System for its industry-leading water efficiency and diagnostics as well as its control capabilities.

Roger Davey of independent irrigation consultants Irritech, who designed the system, said: “The IC System has numerous advantages. It gives the course manager the ability to control each individual sprinkler and to monitor and manage every aspect of their system remotely on a phone or tablet. Its diagnostics also rapidly identify any issues out on the



Photos: Tim Lobb



course, which saves a lot of time. Anyone who sees the IC System working agrees that its cutting-edge technology is the future of golf course irrigation – for efficiency, sustainability and ease of use.”

The venue benefits from a Nimbus II Central Control, a total of 1,750 rotors, a WS Pro LT weather station with direct connection, and a pump station with a duty of 420 cubic metres of water per hour at 10.5 bar of pressure.

Rain Bird Turkey is the solution provider for turnkey golf course projects in the territory, not only as a manufacturer of state-of-the-art irrigation systems, but also for its expertise in installation, set-up for optimal efficiency, and for its commitment to providing customers with excellent support for the long term. It has been selected by a wide range of venues since 2007, including the Maxx Royal, Kusadasi International,

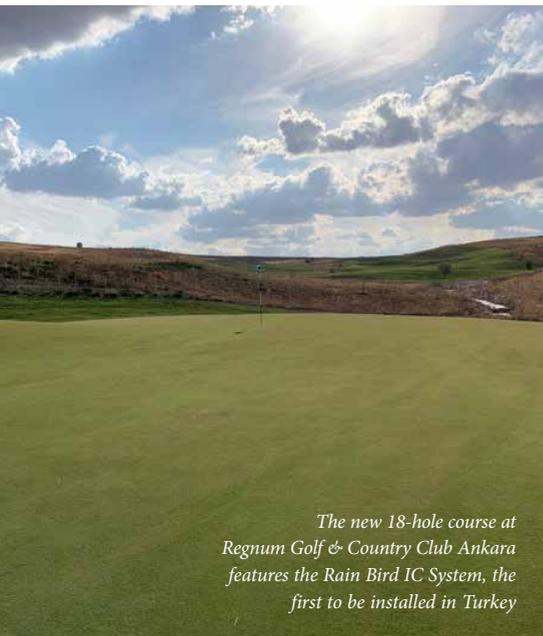
Bodrum Golf & Tennis Club, Titanic Golf Club, Carya Golf Club, Cornelia Golf Club, Lykia World Golf Links, Kaya Palazzo Golf Club, the Regnum Golf & Country Club Bodrum, and the new nine holes at the National Golf Club in Antalya.

Speaking about the recent Ankara project, Tim Lobb said: “I have been fortunate enough to design and open four courses in Turkey over the past 20 years. On all projects Rain Bird was selected as the irrigation supplier. They bring a wealth of experience to the region and each individual project in Turkey. We have been working with many of the same people during this period which gives a consistency of performance across all projects.

“Ankara is the third full golf course that we have designed for the Regnum group and the first full 18-hole course in Ankara. We have designed the course to work with the contours and it offers many long views of the countryside. The hole strategies use the existing contours as much as possible with well undulated greens to putt on.

“In terms of the water management and environmental challenges, our site is quite elevated with a lot of contour across it. In fact, there is 72 metres of elevation difference from top to bottom, so pumping water around is quite a challenge. The climate is interesting as there is a large change in temperatures throughout the year from snow in winter to very hot and dry summers with temperatures in the high thirties [Celsius]. As the landscape is quite barren, we have used fescue grasses in the rough to add some texture to the golfing palette. The course is open for preview play, and we hope that it will prove an enjoyable and fun golfing experience when it opens fully in the spring.”

For more on Rain Bird, turn to page 55 or visit www.rainbird.com/golf/connect-future



The new 18-hole course at Regnum Golf & Country Club Ankara features the Rain Bird IC System, the first to be installed in Turkey