

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



END USER:

Australian Capital Territory
Sport and Recreation Services

ACT GOVERNMENT MANAGER:

Brian Ashcroft

DISTRIBUTOR/CONTRACTOR:

Brett Peel, TIS

RAIN BIRD PRODUCTS USED:

- IQ-Desktop v. 3.0
- ESP-LXMEF Controllers with Flow Smart Module
- WR2 Wireless Rain Sensor
- WS-PROLT Weather Station
- Flow Sensors
- GSP 24-Hour Service Support

"It is great to have a mobile system that I can check on an iPad or phone when I am away from the office."

— Brian Ashcroft, ACT Government Manager
Sport and Recreation Facilities

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government manages an extensive parkland and sportsgrounds system. The 20-year-old central control system was becoming exceedingly expensive to maintain and the technology obsolete. After a thorough, extensive specification and selection process, ACT chose to install IQ-Desktop v. 3.0 and ESP-LXMEF Controllers with Flow Smart Modules.

CHALLENGE:

Older technology and inadequate supply of spare parts was making it difficult and costly to maintain ACT's existing central control system. ACT managers needed a system that would help them manage over 300 hectares of irrigated sports turf across 98 sportsgrounds and 21 parks. They began their specification process two years ago, investigating all of the central control providers in the market.

Since the managers were already familiar with the benefits central control can offer, such as central management and customisation of irrigation schedules, they focused on choosing the system that was easy to use and cost effective to maintain. Because water costs are high – accounting for over one-half of the annual operational budget – the new central control system must be able to both efficiently and effectively manage water and help reduce water use.

RESULTS:

"In our opinion, IQ suited our situation and needs the best. The user interface is easy to use – anyone can use it and feel comfortable. The entire functionality was more robust [than the competition]. The components are plug and play which makes it simple to stock components and maintain the system ourselves," said Brian Ashcroft, ACT Manager. Another benefit is the ability to access IQ remotely on a computer, tablet or phone from anywhere in the world.

Rain Bird's local distributor and contractor, TIS, began installation of the ESP-LXMEF Controllers at the parks and sportsgrounds in June 2013. "The ESP-LXMEF controller is very straightforward to install and the flow sensing capability of IQ is really powerful, especially for this customer," said Brett Peel, TIS. Ten WS-PROLT Weather Stations are also installed throughout the parkland and sportsground system. The weather data collected from these stations will be used by IQ to create customised irrigation schedules based on specific weather data for each individual site.