



VENUE

Anthony Field at Wildcat Stadium is home to Abilene Christian University football. The facility was newly-constructed and opened prior to the 2017 season, bringing football back to a permanent on-campus venue for the first time since 1942. Prior to construction, ACU shared a stadium with a neighboring high school and spectators had to drive or be bused off-campus for Wildcat home games. The new stadium accommodates 12,000 spectators.

CHALLENGE

The original lighting specification called for a metal halide sports lighting system. However, LED lighting was proposed as an alternative and the facility operators saw the advantage an LED lighting system could deliver. With Ephesus' unmatched wireless control capability, LED energy efficiency, and overall quality of light, it was no hard decision for ACU administrators to choose Ephesus over a dated HID solution.

SCOPE

The stadium's construction cost about \$50 million and included club level and suite seating, sports lighting, artificial turf, an HD video board, event space and press box.

SOLUTION

Ephesus All Field fixtures were installed at Wildcat Stadium along with Ephesus' unique AirMesh wireless controls. The system is designed to deliver over 125 foot-candles of light to the field, 25% more than the initial HID specification. Ephesus designers ensured the lighting system met the strict requirements for NCAA broadcasts and even exceeded the NCAA's recommendation for national championship sites. The system is virtually maintenance-free, upgradable and future-proof. Shortly after Wildcat Stadium opened, Ephesus released a new innovation, allowing their customers to add exciting special effects to their upgradable AirMesh platform. Midway through the 2017 season, ACU took advantage of this new feature and remotely upgraded to add these dynamic scenes. This allows ACU to provide exciting light shows and special effects to further enhance the fan experience. Additional innovations continue to be developed and ACU will be able to implement these upgrades.

RESULTS

The light levels and uniformity exceed operators' expectations, and they also appreciate the flexibility of the AirMesh control system. The crisp, flicker-free lighting is suitable for HDTV broadcast and fans enjoy the dynamic scenes in a home of their own to enhance the game-day experience.

"It's amazing to finally have a home of our own at the new Wildcat Stadium. The facility is great all around and engages the community and student body in a new way while providing an excellent experience for our athletes. The sports lighting has exceeded our expectations for overall quality and uniformity while the addition of the dynamic scenes takes the fan experience to a whole new level."

- Drew Long, Associate Director of Athletics for Internal Operations