Project Overview
Conversion of existing over-head rotor irrigation system to sub-surface drip irrigation at the Men's/Women's Soccer Field located at Schreiner University. 48,000 l.f of XFS-09-12 was installed. There were twenty-four (24) zones, each zone had 2,000 l.f. installed. Reasons for converting: (1) Water Savings, (2) Maintenance Costs, (3) Player Safety

Challenge & Solution
“I originally expected a 1 month project but underestimated the work needed. The difference between burying the drip tubing 8” deep instead of 4” deep is not twice as much work, it is TEN TIMES more work. Instead of a narrow (4.5” by 1”) trench, we had to trench the whole field with a regular trencher (4” by 12” trenches); which meant the whole field was torn up and we had much more surface damage than we anticipated. It took 2 months, 180+ yards of sand, and the help of Texas Multi-Chem to get the field back to a playable surface. Our next project like this will definitely take all this into consideration and be part of the bid. The owners may even consider re-sodding at that time unless they have very well established turf grass.

Schreiner had Tifway 419 Bermuda with roots down 6-10”; although the playing surface was un-level and required some top dressing after the installation of the drip line, the grass quickly responded to fertilizing and watering. Within 30 days it was solid green, and within another 30 days was a playable surface. Knowing what to expect now, I believe we could do an identical project in 2 months or less.”

-Zack Derese