

Category 4: Best Building Project – Specialty Contractor (Under \$2 million)
Specialty Contractor: Hunt Electric, Inc.
Project Name: Denver Tennis Park

As the sport of Tennis continues to grow in the Denver Metro area, players of all ages and levels continue to struggle to locate an affordable court to call home. What this community has lacked is a unique facility that could house indoor tennis matches along with outdoor courts. With this, members of the community got together and formed a non-profit organization called Denver Tennis Park, Inc. What materialized out of this partnership was something special. Not only did this partnership strike the interest of the general public, but Denver Tennis Park became a partnership that could serve multiple schools as well. With a location near Denver South High School available, a collaboration between Denver Tennis Park, Inc., the University of Denver, and Denver Public Schools flourished to create a unique indoor/outdoor tennis facility. What became of this partnership is a world-class tennis facility that meets all NCAA regulations for competition along with requirements for televised events. What began as a search for affordable indoor courts to play on during Denver's inclement weather, resulted in a world-class facility housing 6 outdoor courts and 7 indoor courts. For this facility to meet the stringent NCAA regulations for televised events, numerous electrical-specific regulations had to be met or exceeded. In stepped Hunt Electric to return that serve.

Solutions of Special Projects:

As with many projects, the first hurdle the team had to overcome was budgetary constraints. Hunt Electric was tasked with working alongside the Design Team to produce a Value Engineered lighting package that reduced the lighting budget of the project but did not affect the strict specifications for photometrics and light quality of every square inch of the court space. For this to happen, numerous light studies were performed and reviewed to ensure the savings being realized with the new lighting package did not affect the quality. Both lighting photometrics and color rendering are strict requirements set forth by the NCAA and if placement of lights, poor light qualities or lighting control are incorrectly executed, the dream of the facility would be affected. Hunt Electric worked tirelessly reviewing multiple lighting fixture types while comparing costs and reliability along with updating the photometrics with the new fixtures. With a final decision on the fixtures, instillation of over 50 lighting fixtures began along the 6

indoor courts at approximately 35 feet off the floor. Installation, fixture placements, and adjustments required precise planning and layout to ensure work could be completed uninterrupted. The result of this preplanning and testing produced a savings of 30% off the overall lighting package allowing the non-profit organization to continue making the dream a reality for the community!

Excellence in Project Executions and Management/Team Approach:

With the light fixture and lighting control packages set, Hunt Electric began the execution of installation. The six exterior courts adhered to strict soil compaction requirements under the courts along with a site that provided its own set of challenges. For these courts, the pattern for pole light placement is much tighter than a standard parking lot, to ensure every corner of every court had proper lighting coverage per NCAA standards. With six 30' pole lights to illuminate each of the outdoor courts, Hunt Electric dove in to perform the underground for over 20 pole lights. Drilling for the 8' pole bases, along with the strict compaction requirements in a tight, restricted site allowed zero room for error. Excavation depths, backfill, and compaction all needed to pass strict testing requirements to allow for the courts to be poured and unaffected by even the slightest settling. With a tight site and strict underground requirements in front of them, Hunt Electric's team brought out the best in each other, worked together and completed a tough site to perfection!

Construction Innovation/State of the Art Advancement:

With today's construction technology available, teams are able to review many site restrictions and issues ahead of time to eliminate issues before they arise. With Hunt Electric at the forefront of the construction technology era, this project was no different. A detailed photometrics plan was developed up front with the lighting package. During this review, lighting locations, aiming and heights were adjusted throughout to ensure the proper photometrics and colors were met per NCAA standards throughout the facility. A detailed BIM installation plan was also developed from this plan coordinating an elaborate underground package throughout to prevent conflicts in the field during actual installations. A state-of-the-art lighting control system was designed to not only save operational costs with vacancy control, but to also adjust lighting levels to the specific NCAA regulations. With perfection a desired result, Hunt Electric gained the advantage during

the Design and Planning stages of the Denver Tennis Park to ensure that the installation met perfection.

Environmental/Safety:

With safety being the top priority at Hunt Electric, the Denver Tennis Park project was no exception. By utilizing daily FOCUS forms, pre-planning, daily huddles and weekly safety meetings, Hunt Electric completed the Denver Tennis Park project without a recordable or lost time injury. This was a key contributor to Hunt Electric achieving a corporate milestone of 500,000-man hours without a lost-time injury. Everything was pre-planned, reviewed and discussed prior to starting the electrical activities including setting switchgear, preassembling the light poles, arms and lights, standing the 30' light poles in a congested space, working at heights above the indoor courts as well as energizing feeders, gear and branch circuits. With all these Safety complications in place on this tight site, detailed planning and coordination with all trades needed to be executed. Safety performance was another “returned serve” with precise accuracy by Hunt Electric.

Excellence in Client Service and/or Contribution to Community:

With the community gathering for the common good, establishing a non-profit organization and joining forces with multiple levels of educational and player levels, the Denver Tennis Park is an extreme success story of what can be achieved when we work together. Not only will players have a place to play when the Denver weather shifts, but players and a community can unite inside the Denver Tennis Park facility to teach, learn and develop a game they love. With a facility that not only serves a direct purpose to the community, but can also be seen on live NCAA broadcasts, the Denver Tennis Park’s dream was realized. With a complex lighting analysis and installation, along with congested/high daily working conditions, Hunt Electric and their onsite team “Aced it”. An ace served to perfection that the Denver community will benefit from for years to come.









