



1114 BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE TURF REPAIR



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Pontchartrain Partners, LLC has completed a design-build service contract of replacing the turf of the football/soccer field located at Barksdale Air Force Base. PPLLC partnered with engineer consultants Aillet, Fenner, Jolly & McClelland Inc. (Shreveport), Wilson Electric (Shreveport) and Hellas Construction (Austin, TX) each played pivotal rolls in the successful completion of the project.

The contracting officers at Barksdale Air Force Base had a serious need to replace the existing field which consisted of natural grass that was in poor condition. The field had an old an antiquated drainage system which prevented the grass from growing properly. Having a grass field was also costly to maintain. The constant need to water, fertilize and cut the grass and mark the field had become very time consuming. Then there is issues that evolved when it came to inclement weather. Grass fields become muddy and slippery creating an unsafe environment for the players. Under these circumstances there was increased potential for players to be injured; rolled ankles, muscles strains and other injuries are just a few issues that can occur from slippery conditions on a grass field. All of these factors led to a decision to install new turf at the base.

Scope of Work

The work involved in this project entailed removing up to 8" of topsoil and vegetation from the previous field, excavating and removing the old drainage system, installation of a sub field, and the install of artificial turf system. The electrical lines that were located in the middle of the old field had to be moved and rerouted to the perimeter of the field. New goal posts, stadium seats, and soccer goals were also added to complete the project.

The product used to re-surface the field is called Matrix Turf with Hellas Technology. There are various versions of this product. The artificial turf used on this project is a 46 oz. synthetic turf system that had to be installed

MARKET

Government

AGENCY

Barksdale Air Force Base
Bossier City, LA

SERVICES

Construction

SCOPE OF WORK

Demolition existing football/soccer field for the installment of professional grade synthetic turf that included a drainage system.

PERCENTAGE COMPLETE

100 %

This project was completed 4 months early and well under budget.



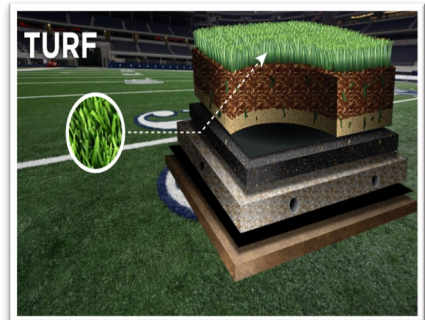
1114 BAFB TURF REPAIRContinued



Preparing the field for the installation of the sub field and new artificial turf.

in pieces in a specific order. Keeping the individual pieces in order ensured the pre-painted yardage markings on the field were properly positioned. The Matrix Turf with Hellas technology turf is a turf system now commonly used in Olympic stadiums, professional league arenas and Division 1 Universities.

The new turf will save the agency time and money due to the fact the artificial turf is maintenance free. The agency will never have to mark the turf, cut or fertilize grass again. It will also assist in keeping the players safe; the turf promotes increased traction and it's more shock absorbent as it has impact reduction benefits. The turf is also slip resistant when wet.



Matrix Turf products all use high-quality, durable materials that give the fibers a natural look and feel providing a soft and strong surface for your synthetic turf system.

Challenges

All construction projects come with its fair share of challenges. This project was no different. The agency insisted that the replacement of the turf, drainage system and underground electrical system had to be completed with out damaging the race track that surrounded the football field.

Our team was able to overcome this challenge by first covering the track with fabric, then using their ingenuity to build two (2) bridges allowing drivers of the large dozers and other vehicles to gain access to the field without ever touching the track.

End Results

The contracting officers at Barksdale Air Force Base is extremely pleased with the results and the hard work our team put into this project. The old weathered grass field now has the look and feel of any professional league stadium in the country.

Furthermore, PPLLC scored big by completing this project **4 months** ahead of schedule and under the estimated budget.

Thanks to our great staff and team members who supported this project, making it one of PPLLC's most accomplished projects to date.



Installation of the electrical lines that had to be re-routed around the field.

Did You KNOW ?

- ♦ Artificial turf is helping to increase greenspace in large cities where grass is limited. It is becoming more common for developers to capitalize on the use of artificial turf by creating outdoor living spaces on rooftops and landings of commercial and high-rise residential properties. Cityscapes no longer have to be considered "concrete" jungles.
- ♦ Artificial turf has an expected life span up to twenty-five years in any climate.





Mary LeBlanc
Director of Human Resources
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welcome to our
**NEW
HIRES**

Lawrence Howdyshell
Heavy Equipment Operator/ Superintendent

Lee Davison
Laborer



2 YEARS

Yvette Patton
Don Tutor

3 YEARS

Ali Aljaberi
Andrew Cruppi
Todd Grantier
Anthony Preston
Erich Soraghan

4 YEARS

Allan Howell
Andre Simmons
Donald Tutor
Nathan Watts



AUGUST 6

Walter Bates

AUGUST 8

Jamaal Terry

AUGUST 10

Tommy Blue
Chris Bourgeois

AUGUST 13

Robert Miller

AUGUST 18

Keith Stevens

AUGUST 21

Asiah Crutchfield

AUGUST 25

Eric Coffey

AUGUST 26

Dearl Thomposon, Jr.

ACCOLADES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



2017 8(A) FIRM OF THE YEAR

On July 20th Pontchartrain Partners, LLC was awarded the 2017—8(a) Firm of the Year, U.S. Small Business Administration Louisiana District Office.

The selection of this distinguished award was based on merits that included, but were not limited to, the partners of PPLLC's commitment and dedication to their employees, innovative ideas in working to build our community and the city's economy through programs such as our Hubzone program.

Partners Danny Blanks and James R. Washington III, as well as business development manager, Brooke Woods were on hand to receive the award.

THE WASHINGTON HOME IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION



James Washington with wife Yasmin with daughter, Chloe.

Partner James Washington and wife Yasmin will be welcoming their new baby girl any day now.

On June 21st the corporate office surprised James and his family with a beautiful baby shower. Malissa Gioia, Makeda Miller and Brooke Woods spared no expense and made sure the family was given the royal treatment. The theme of the shower was "Baby Library". The Washington's were gifted with a selection of baby books. Even the food and cake resembled the theme of various baby books.

We are excited for the Washington family as they anticipate the arrival of their new blessing. We are also looking forward to seeing how well little Chloe adjusts to having to share "Daddy"?

Who can guess baby Washington's name?

Big sister Chloe is holding the letter "C" which represents the first name of her new little sister. Can you guess the name?



Best Wishes



Wishing Cierra Erwin, construction administrator, the best on her new adventure with PPLLC. Cierra has relocated to our Cocoa Beach office, under the direction of Robert Miller, vice president of construction. Cierra's career with

PPLLC started in our Dallas office 3 years ago. In December 2015 Cierra moved to assist our corporate office in New Orleans where she has worked hard assisting our estimators and project managers with task such as bids, submittals, contracts, and COI's.

Cierra is going to spread her wings again and we look forward to her continued success with PPLLC.

PONTCHARTRAIN PARTNERS, LLC

SPONSORS

PELICAN'S MILITARY FAMILY FIT DAY



On Saturday, July 8th partner's Danny Blanks and James Washington spearheaded PPLLC's sponsorship of the New Orleans Pelican's, *Military Family Fit Day*. This was a day of fitness and fun to encourage children from 2 to 82 the importance of being healthy by being active and staying active.

Because of PPLLC's sponsorship, the Pelicans were able to invite Members of the military and their families to the Pelican's practice facility to challenge themselves in various fitness challenges. Members of the PPLLC family also participated and had a great time! Those in attendance enjoyed free-throw stations, dribbling races, push-up challenges and more.

The Pelicans staff ,including Pierre the Pelican and members of the cheerleading team, participated in the event—making a good time for all involved.

The event ended with trivia games and prizes as well as a tour of the Pelican's practice facility. Thanks to the partners for organizing such a great event.



MONEY MATTERS



GUARD YOUR CARD ON SUMMER ROAD TRIPS: 5 TIPS TO EVADE GAS PUMP SKIMMERS

Heading out on a vacation road trip? Watch out at the fuel pump for a threat to your debit or credit card: skimmer. Gas stations, among the last retailers to install fraud-reducing EMV-chip card readers, remain an attractive target this summer for card-skimming crews.

Skimmers can be hidden in and around gas pumps' card readers, secretly recording the data stored in your credit or debit card's magnetic stripe. Fraudsters use that data to make counterfeit cards, rack up pricey purchases at you expense, and potentially drain your bank account.

TIPS FOR SAFER SWIPING

Here are five ways to feel more secure at the gas pump:

Run your transaction (even with a debit card) as a credit card purchase. If thieves crack your debit card, they'll be able to access your bank account. And although you can minimize your losses if you call your bank quickly, your liability for losses on credit card purchases is much more limited.

Choose a fuel dispenser that's close the store—ideally, one with security camera installed nearby. Criminals would be less likely to tamper with pumps that are visible to workers inside the store.

opt for well-maintained service stations. Proprietors who keep their premises shipshape are also more likely to be inspecting and taking care of their pumps, says Jeff Lenard, vice president for strategic industry initiatives at the National Association of Convenience Stores. These stores account for 80% of all U.S. gas sales. Some stations have adopted visible anti-tampering measures, such as placing tamper-resistant tape over the front panel edges. That's a reassuring sign of vigilance.

Take a minute or two to examine the dispenser before inserting your card. Does it look like the front of the panel has been pried apart? Is the keypad raised, rather than flush against the console? Do its buttons look different from the ones at neighboring pumps? Does the card reader look different? Is the reader loose in its sockets? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, the pump



may have been tampered with; don't use it.

Why Fraud lurks at the pump

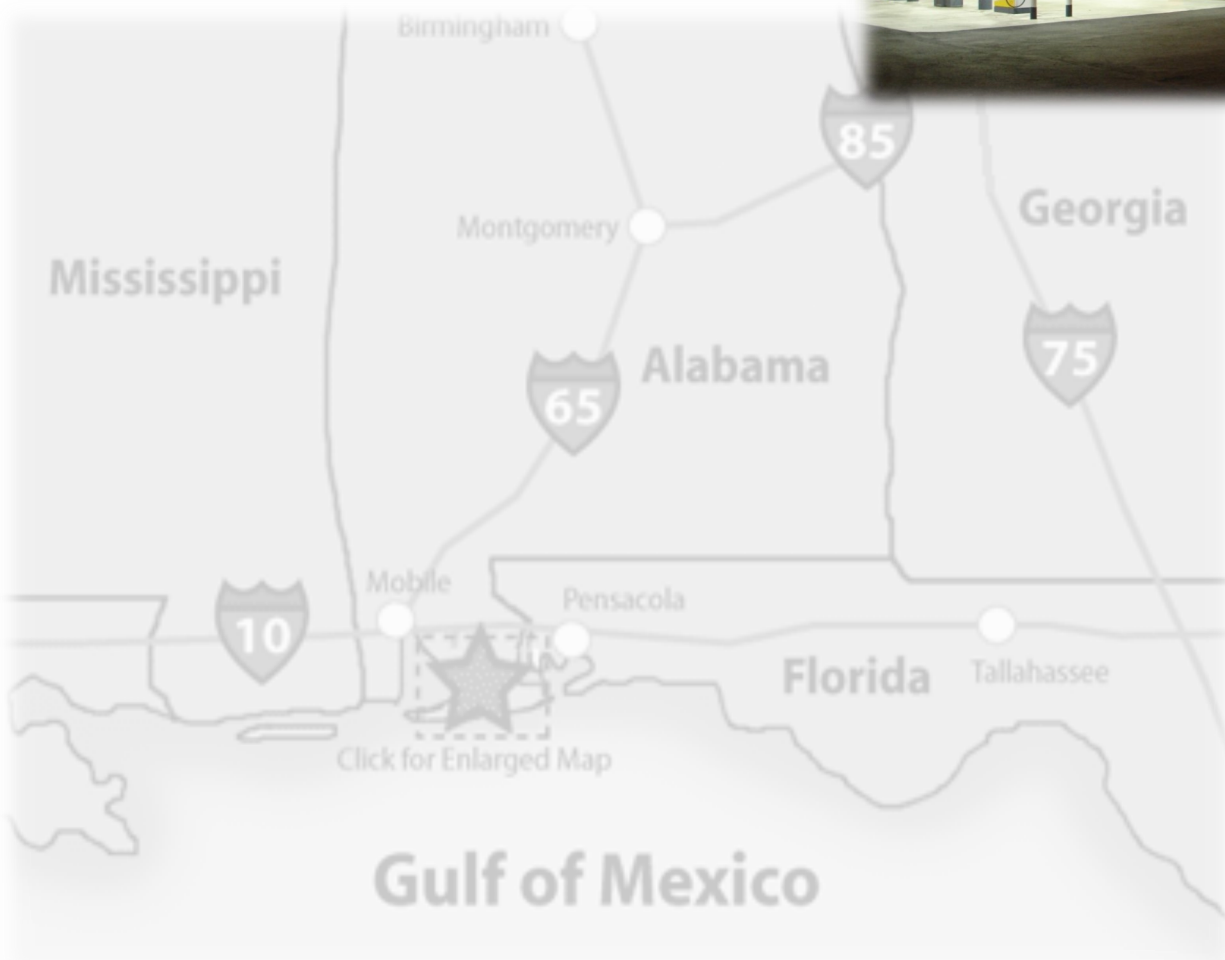
Installing EMV-chip card readers is a costly and complex upgrade for a gas stations, industry experts say: Replacement of the entire fuel dispenser is required. An October 2017 EMV compliance deadline imposed by Mastercard and Visa on gas stations had been extended to October 2020. But even EMV is no magic bullet.

"Without PIN use, EMV is less successful in reducing fraud," Lenard says.

A PIN is an additional layer of security, and although you debit card requires it, you probably won't punch in a PIN at the pump when using an EMV credit card.

Visa noted late last year that fraud at EMV-enabled merchants had been reduced by 43% - huge strides, but the crime is far from eradicated.

Caren Welner Campbell is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website. The article Guard Your Card: 5 Tips to Evade Gas Pump Skimmers originally appeared on NerdWallet.



NOLA HAPPENINGS



AUGUST 19TH & 20TH

HOUSE OF BLUES

225 DECATUR ST.

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM



**NOLA Downtown Music
and Arts Festival**

August 23—26

Downtown/CBD

Cost: FREE



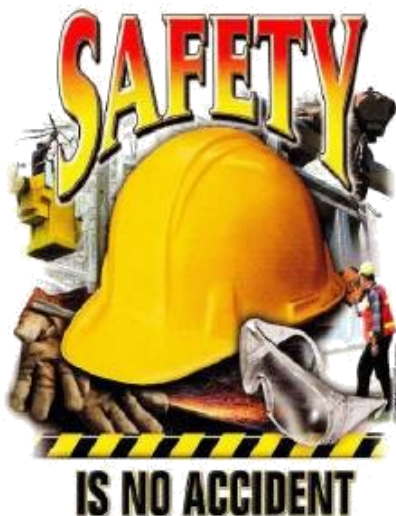
Rigging Safety

We have all heard the phrase "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link".

When it comes to material handling and hoisting heavy or off-centered objects, the rigging can often be the weakest link. Proper rigging techniques and the way the load is secured can make the difference between a successful lift and an unfortunate accident.



Rigging-related accidents can be deadly. When rigging fails the load will fall and there is no way to stop it. Anyone in or near the fall zone would not have time to safely move to the clear. In addition to causing tragic and serious injury to workers, rigging failures can also damage or destroy expensive equipment and materials.



Rigging failure can strike at any moment if:

- the wrong sling is used;
- rigging hardware isn't rated for the task;
- the sling angle is incorrect;
- employees are adequately trained and equipped safety programs aren't fully implemented.

Operators should ALWAYS ensure work areas are clear for movement.

Ground workers should ALWAYS be aware of what is going on around them when working around equipment.