

# The Mechanical Pipeline

## System 15<sup>®</sup> Scores at BMO Field

IPEX System 15<sup>®</sup> DWV was used to drain water from the canopies into the existing storm water system



In 2016, the nine-year old BMO Field in Toronto, home of the Toronto FC, also became home to the Toronto Argonauts, and a \$120 million investment to expand seating began. As tough as Argo fans are, it was decided to add two large steel canopies above the bleachers to protect them from the rain and snow that are often part of football season. And because rain and melting snow have to go somewhere from these large roofs, drainage provided by IPEX System 15<sup>®</sup> DWV was the solution.

After the canopies were erected and while additions and changes to the field continued, mechanical contractor Modern Niagara, part of the stadium's original design build construction team nine years ago, had seven weeks to add the necessary system to drain water from the canopies into the storm water system already in place at the facility.

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**Scott McLaren**  
Project Foreman, Modern Niagara

Mike Mercurio, IPEX Sales Rep. explains, “The original specs were for cast iron. Assembling heavy cast iron pipe, much of it suspended 120 feet above ground would be incredibly difficult. In addition to being lighter than metal pipe, we also showed the engineers the resilience of PVC pipe to ultraviolet and weather exposure, and System 15 was accepted for the project.”

Another time-saver for the project was the decision to use mechanical couplings to join



Mechanical couplings provide time-saving solution to join the pipe under the roof.

the pipe instead of solvent welding. Mechanical couplings were a great alternative to solvent welding when working at heights in a scissor lift or bucket as was necessary on this project.

Scott McLaren, Project Foreman with Modern Niagara, explains, “We assembled approximately 1,200 feet of pipe altogether. We went up on motorized swing stages made to come down on cables through the roof. Trying to solvent weld lengths of pipe when you are 120 feet in the air on a swing stage that moves back and forth would be very challenging. The engineers approved mechanical couplings for use on the System 15 piping and our problem was solved.”

With a seven-week window to complete the work, organization and planning were essential. The storm water lines in the ground were 15" in diameter and the System 15 pipe was 14", so IPEX built special adapters to transition between the two pipes. McLaren said, “I worked closely with Mike Mercurio on planning the project and

making sure that there was a lot of lead time. We divided the work space into quadrants. When we picked up the material, the crates were labeled and bundled for each specific quadrant. That saved us a lot of time.” McLaren adds, “From day one, IPEX visited the site very frequently to ensure they could meet our requirements and deadlines. We had special rush orders, as usual, and IPEX came through for us.”

IPEX DWV products such as System 15®, System XFR®, MJ Grey™ Mechanical Couplings and Drain-Guard™ Double Containment have been providing solutions to Canadian mechanical customers for many years, and we are proud to have our System 15 products contribute to the very successful expansion to BMO Field.