

# Woodside Stadium



## About Woodside:

Opened in 1955, Woodside Stadium in Watford, Hertfordshire is owned by the local borough council. The track was upgraded to an eight-lane synthetic one in 1995. This track was completely replaced in 2009.

Home to the renowned Watford Harriers Athletics Club, the stadium is also used as the training ground for other local athletics clubs, such as the Chiltern Harriers.

The stadium is host to a number of local school and league competition meetings. It also hosts national events including the British Milers Grand Prix.

## The challenge

DC Electrical, a commercial and industrial electrical contractor, had been appointed in 2020 by Woodside to carry out a review and upgrade of its lighting – internal and external. To handle the track and field lighting, DC Electrical called in the experts. Us.

The Metal Halide system at Woodside was presenting a lot of issues.

- It consumed a huge amount of electricity compared to what an LED system would. So, it was placing an unnecessary burden on their annual budget – especially with energy prices in the UK going up year on year.
- It wasn't reliable and needed a lot of maintenance. This meant Woodside was spending a massive amount on new bulbs and having them replaced. Even without factoring in any other things in like any downtime caused, this couldn't go on.

## At a glance

**Sector:** Sports  
**Country:** UK  
**Customer:** Woodside Stadium

**Project date:** December 2020 - Jan 2021  
**LED floodlights installed:** Modus S and Modus R 1200

**Lux Average Values:** > 200 lux on the track  
**Uniformity:** 0.6 (Emin/Eave)  
**Energy savings:** 31.8kW

**Club founded:** 1955



- As well as costs, their Metal Halide system wasn't doing their 'green' credentials any favours. They were wasting a lot of energy. Metal Halide lights contain mercury and other hazardous chemicals and are harsher on the environment compared to LED lights. On a local level, the stadium's Metal Halide system was causing a lot of light pollution for their residential neighbours too.
- Unlike LED solutions, Metal Halide systems aren't easily adaptable or versatile and can cause problems when things like new regulations are introduced. As Woodside needed to maintain its competition certification with bodies such as TrackMark, England Athletics, and the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) this was massively important.

The other main challenge we faced was timing. The new system had to be fully installed and running by the end of January 2021. We'd been appointed to take on the project in December 2020. So, taking into account the holiday season, this gave us just around a month to get everything done... during a global pandemic.

### Our solution

With the clock ticking, we quickly dispatched a Design and Engineering team to Woodside. They assessed what was already at the stadium and what needed to be achieved. Then they came up with several lighting design solutions to meet Woodside's objectives – a free service we offer all our clients. We presented these different designs to DC Electrical and Woodside.

When it came to speed of installation, objectives, and budget our preferred solution stood head and shoulders above the rest.

Thanks to the existing infrastructure at Woodside there was no need to start everything from scratch. We could use the existing masts and energy supply at the stadium and retrofit a combination of our Modus R and S luminaires. See below for more details.

The result? An energy-efficient, reliable, more environmentally friendly, adaptable, compliant, and future-proofed lighting system. Everything the client had asked for – delivered on time and budget.

### Our Modus R Series benefits at a glance:

Applications: Sports stadiums. The lightweight, extremely versatile, high-powered Modus R Series has been engineered for both sports stadia retrofit and new build projects. The low-glare, broadcast-ready, flicker-free LED floodlight has a remotely mounted single IP67 electronic control gear that makes it easy to install and can drive up to 216 LEDs with multiple photometric distributions. Its feature-rich dynamic controls (DMX, DALI, 1-10v) and remote monitoring makes it a highly scalable solution, for a high-end user experience in UHD and super slow-motion conditions. [Find out more >](#)

### Our Modus S Series benefits at a glance:

Applications: Small and medium sized areas. A perfect lighting solution for small to medium-sized sporting venues, grassroots facilities, or training grounds our Modus S Series delivers high lumen packages without any excess weight. Designed to specifically reduce light spill for neighbours and residents it's an ideal solution for areas such as community/inner-city facilities. It has been designed to retrofit onto existing structures and it has remote mounted drivers for ease of access The Modus S can also support wireless controls. [Find out more >](#)

### Before and after technical comparison:

	BEFORE	AFTER WITH LED
Number of projectors	38	38
Nominal power for single appliance	2000W	1100W and 1200W
Total power absorbed	Unknown	
Colour temperature	Unknown	5000k
Colour rendering index	Unknown	>70
Average light level	Unknown	>200 lux on track
Uniformity	Unknown	>0.6
Energy savings	76kW	44.2kW