

# Schindler Equips Cowboys Stadium

by Doug Bender



**Doug Bender** is district manager in Dallas/Fort Worth – North Texas for Schindler Elevator. He has served in his current role since 2001 and is responsible for overall

Profit & Loss, sales, service, modernization and construction operations in North Texas. Bender earned a BA in Marketing from Southern Methodist University. He has 27 years of experience with Westinghouse and Schindler in various sales, management and national account positions in the U.S. and Canada.

Cowboys Stadium, home to the National Football League's Dallas Cowboys, is one of the largest domed stadiums in the world, with a total capacity of 110,000 people and seating for 80,000. HKS Architects and the City of Arlington, Texas, which owns the stadium, built the immense structure and Schindler Elevator partnered on the project. Schindler contributed 18 elevators equipped with Variodyn® Variable Frequency AC Drives and 22 Schindler 9300® Advanced Edition escalators to the project, in addition to its LobbyVision™ management tool.

During the early phases of installation, it became clear that hoisting escalator equipment from tower cranes would not be feasible. Buddy

Eischen, foreman and 40-year Schindler veteran and Jay Bitner, field superintendent, developed a complex hoisting strategy to safely and efficiently set in place two sets of eight escalators in the northeast and southwest quadrants of the stadium without compromising the construction schedule.

The stadium also required reliable technology that could streamline traffic throughout the building. The 6000 lb.-capacity, 350-fpm elevators provide access to all floors. The 22 escalators move the bulk of the stadium's visitors and are set in specific patterns that allow people to travel through the building without having to move between escalator banks to reach their destination.

## Variodyn Variable Frequency AC Drives

The elevators' Variodyn drives improve the system's energy efficiency. Saving up to 50% more energy than alternate drive types, Variodyn drives convert the AC electric supply to variable-frequency AC with virtually no loss of power. The drives also operate more cleanly than traditional DC elevator drive systems.

## LobbyVision

The LobbyVision management tool provides a comprehensive PC-based command station, which allows single-point supervision of all 18 elevators in real time. Through the integration of information and control functions, elevator availability and performance can be monitored from one central location. The ability for building operations management to switch services or access privileges for specific elevators is crucial for special events and VIP attendance.

## Mobility as Art

The vertical-transportation layout developed by Dallas-based HKS Architects incorporated efficient access for all stadium attendees and personnel and enhanced the owner's long-term vision of the stadium as a contemporary work of art. The elevators and escalators extensively feature team colors, along with customized elevator cab interiors with star-shaped destination buttons that light up in Cowboys blue. Each elevator also features a custom interior, with panels paying homage to Cowboys players of the past through photos.

## Sustainability

Schindler worked to ensure that its processes were in keeping with the stadium's commitment to a low



Custom cab interiors feature branded buttons with blue lights.

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Main concourse elevators





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Escalators 13-22 in the southwest quadrant connect the concourse to upper-deck seating levels.

The first escalator being hoisted into the building's southwest corner using two mobile cranes

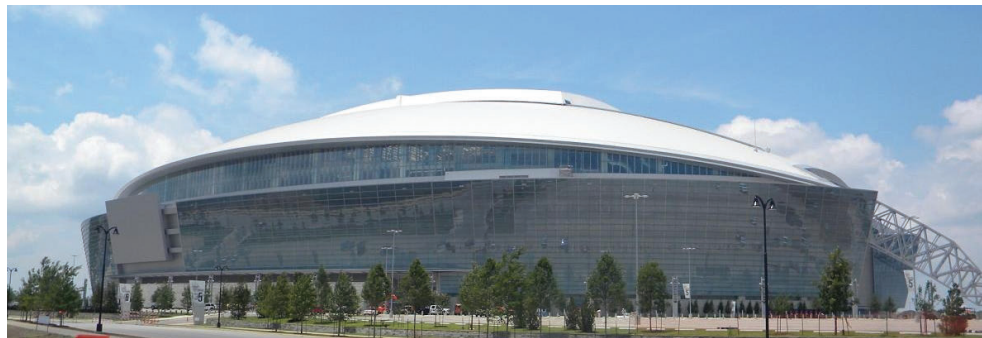


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carbon footprint. Recycled materials such as steel, iron and copper alloys were used whenever possible. Schindler also utilizes a global sourcing strategy to ensure that its products and components are sourced as closely as possible to major markets.

The elevators installed in the facility boast a range of green features, including:

- ◆ Standard high-efficiency motors and variable-frequency drives, reducing the project's overall carbon footprint.
- ◆ Efficient microprocessors minimize the elevators' energy usage when the stadium is empty.



In its first year alone, Cowboys Stadium hosted such diverse events as sold-out concerts, professional soccer matches, a college basketball game, the National Basketball Association All-Star game and Super Bowl XLV.

- ◆ Packaging material used was recyclable.
- ◆ The optional intermittent operation features of the escalators can save over half of the total energy usage of the machine by operating at crawl speed when no passengers are on board. 

# Green matters



## **Schindler sustainability**

Schindler incorporates sustainable green features into our elevator and escalator systems and offers energy saving upgrades. Improving the environmental impact of our products and processes, particularly our own consumption of energy and materials, is fundamental to our corporate responsibility and reinforces our position as an industry leader. Schindler maintains a continuing commitment to improving mobility while preserving resources and minimizing energy consumption.

## **Schindler Service Excellence**

Naturally you'll want to keep your newly upgraded elevators running at peak performance. Schindler Service is the logical answer. With a maintenance agreement from Schindler, you'll experience fewer problems with your elevators, fewer callbacks for repair and less inconvenience for your tenants or guests. We'd be proud to add you to that list of satisfied customers.

