

Project profile: Camelback Golf Club - Scottsdale, Arizona

PROJECT LOCATION:
Scottsdale, AZ

ARCHITECT:
Hurdzan/Fry
Lead Designer Jason Straka of Fry/
Straka

BUILDER:
Integrity Golf

**HYDROSEEDING
CONTRACTOR:**
Rob Everhart
Sunwest Golf & Reclamation

SITE CHALLENGES:
Course sits atop a desert wash and
is subject to fast moving flood
waters.

PRODUCTS:
Profile Terra-Wood™ was used
across the entire course, applied at
varying rates depending on the
terrain.

Profile Porous Ceramics were
incorporated at a 10% rate by
volume on Greens;
Champion Bermudagrass was
hydrosprigged on Greens

RESULT:
Accelerated seed establishment
and rooting, with no disruption to
the project schedule

REFERENCES:
Jason Straka
JStraka@frystraka.com

Rob Everhart
sunwest1@cgaz.com

TESTIMONIALS:
Jason Straka of Fry/Straka on behalf
of Hurdzan/Fry :

"The native areas germinated and
grew in quicker than we expected,
largely in part due to the excellent
performance of Profile's Terra-
Wood product; and the putting
greens were exceptional for a first
year course."



Photo credit: Dave Sansom—copyright 2013

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Ambiente Course, one of two 18-hole courses at the JW Marriott Camelback Golf Club, received a major upgrade at the hand of renowned golf course design firm Hurdzan/Fry, with Jason Straka serving as the lead architect.

The course originally opened as Indian Bend in 1970, and had never undergone a significant renovation. With the upscale Marriott resort nearby, owners wanted to improve the course to offer a greater feeling of luxury and high-end performance. The result was a flagship property for Marriott.

Ambiente—the Spanish word for “environment” is described as having “eye-catching elevation changes, as well as rolling fairways with significant drops throughout the course”.

Profile Products was brought in during the early planning phases to help Straka; course builder Integrity Golf; and contractor Sunwest Golf & Reclamation contend with these features, and to address the fact that the course rested on an Army Corps of Engineers flood plain.

Profile recommended effective solutions to stabilize slopes, promote vegetation, and improve the long-term viability of the rootzone mix. Fairways were hydrosprigged with Bermudagrass and Profile's Terra Wood™, while the perimeter areas were hydroseeded conventionally using Terra Wood along with native grasses, and a Wildflower mix in select areas to provide a unique feel to the course. Additionally, Profile Porous Ceramics—Greens Grade was selected as the soil amendment for the root zone mix and incorporated at a 10% rate. Testing of the root zone mix was completed by Hummel Labs, and based on the characteristics of the sand, a 90/10 sand/Profile blend was selected to ensure optimum performance.

While the Arizona climate was favorable for growing, the potential for rain impact on the flood plain led hydroseeding contractor Rob Everhart to utilize Wood Fiber mulch at a rate of up to 2400 lbs/acre. He also added a tackifier when applying the native grasses and wildflowers, particularly on the greater slopes.

SITE CHALLENGES/SOLUTIONS



Hydroseeding course with Terra Wood and native seed blend

Profile representatives Randy Hamilton and John Maeder were involved in the earliest discussions with the superintendent, architect, and builder, and remained in close contact until the course completion two years after the initial meetings.

The final product reflected a number of significant design changes, including greater complexity of greens and bunkering, and a far more challenging rough with wildflowers and native grasses, yet increased playability with wider fairways and five sets of tees per hole. "It was a terrific team effort to pull this together and see such great success in the end," noted Maeder. "The team worked very well together behind the scenes and the result was something everyone could be proud of."

Course flooding had posed a challenge in the past, and holes were repositioned during the renovation to better account for the flood plain cutting through the course. Vegetation grew in effectively enough that the one significant rainfall event during renovation did not create any washouts.

"During Phase 1 it was amazing to see what was nothing but a bare floodway wash transform into a beautiful, playable golf course in only 60 days," said Everhart. "This is attributable to the architect, builder, superintendent, sub-contractors, consultants and materials suppliers all working very well together."

"I use only Profile's wood fiber mulch products because they are very versatile and dependable. They are the only products which allow me to use a variety of equipment and any application rate needed, and still be very easy to shoot and achieve great results every time."



Sand / Profile Blend unloaded for root zone mix installation



Wildflowers fully grown in after hydroseeding



*Native grasses grown in on course
Photo credit: Dave Sansom—copyright 2013*