

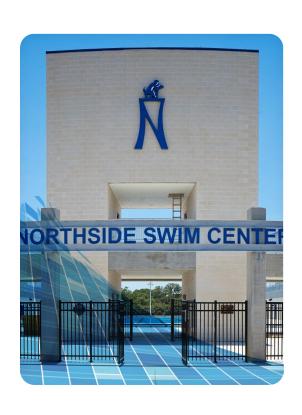
AN IDEAL VENUE

For Serious Aquatic Competition

Northside Swim Center in San Antonio, Texas, is a state-of-the-art facility and ideal training environment for competitive swimmers. It's also the ideal venue for serious aquatic competition, having a capacity for more than 1,200 athletes, seating for 2400 spectators and a large jumbotron-style screen with timed results viewable during events.

The Northside Independent School District owns and operates the swim center. The facility runs high school and United States Swimming meets regularly throughout the year. It runs a USAS swim meet at least once a month and high school competitions are typically run three out of four weekends per month during the school year.

The facility has also hosted many large national events, including the U.S. Masters Swimming Nationals, and served as a practice facility for the Rio 2016 Summer Olympic Games. The center also hosts a number of water polo competitions.



PULSAR® SYSTEMS IN USE

For More Than A Decade

The school district facilities include the NISD Natatorium, which features a 50-meter long, 25-yard wide pool that ranges from four to seven feet deep. The Northside facility also features a 50-meter outdoor pool adjacent to a 25-meter pool equipped for springboard and platform diving, and also serves as a warm-up and cool-down pool for some swimming competitions.

Due to the continuous thrashing of the water and the perspiration of the athletes during these events, the water requires continuous chlorination to maintain the appropriate chlorine residual at all times. To meet this demand, the pools are operated using some of the most advanced water chemistry technologies available - including Pulsar® calcium hypochlorite and Pulsar® feed systems from Solenis™.

Terry Vetters, Manager of Aquatic Facility Operations and his team of certified pool operators are responsible for ensuring the center's pool water chemistries meet the highest quality standards. About 10 years ago the center switched from using sodium hypochlorite to Pulsar® calcium hypochlorite for water sanitization for all its pools.

"We really appreciate the physical size and design of the Pulsar® calcium hypochlorite product and it's chemical makeup," Vetters says. "The de-scaler built into the product works wonderfully."

Vetters and his crew know this first hand. For a short period, the facility ran another brand of cal hypo through its feed systems and within six weeks they started seeing calcium buildup around the inlets at the bottom of all their pools.

"We don't see that when we're using the Pulsar® product," he says. "Rather, it makes the general appearance of our facility better. The lack of calcium buildup is a big reason why we keep insisting we use it when it's time to go out to bid for new chemical contracts."

The facility also uses the CCH Multi Action Pro and the Phosphate Pro in their outdoor pools.

"We have had fantastic results when we have been using the Phosphate Pro in knocking down and reducing algae growth in our outdoor pools." Says Vetters. "When we add mechanical agitation and brushing, we are seeing a huge reduction in the growth of filamentous algae and when we combine that with the Multi Action Pro, we see super water clarity."

Vetters raves that the pool water appears polished and is fantastic for viewing on competition days when hundreds of people are at the facility as well as for day to day training. The facility has had numerous coaches and high level athletes comment about how high the water quality is.

"We had a coach that got into the pool between sessions of one of our national level meets and was exclaiming about how he could see the entire length of the 50 meter pool and that the target on the wall at the other end of the pool was crisp and looked like he could reach out and touch it."

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Terry Vetters

Manager, Aquatics Facility Operations Northside Independent School District



FEED SYSTEM UPGRADE

Further Boosts Efficiencies

The swim center recently upgraded its calcium hypochlorite feed systems to the most current Pulsar® model, the Pulsar® Precision, for maintaining optimum pool chlorination. The new feeder design from Solenis™ uses special high capacity erosion (HCE) technology that works in conjunction with Pulsar® Plus calcium hypochlorite briquettes to produce a fresh concentrated liquid chlorine solution. The system chlorinates, treat organics, controls metals, boosts hardness, and provides shock treatments, all in one simple process.

"We held on to our original Pulsar® feed units for a very long time," Vetters says, "because they were very reliable, easy to work with and parts were readily available. We have now put the new Pulsar® Precision units on all our pools, except our small lessons pool. There, we're still running our older unit, but in the next couple of months we will be installing a new Pulsar® Precision 30 system for the pool." The Precision 30 feed system is specifically designed for smaller commercial pools and uses the new 3-inch Pulsar® slow-dissolve cal hypo tablets.

UNINTERRUPTED OPERATIONS

Eight To 10 Weeks Between Cleanings

Regarding the new Pulsar® Precision feeders, Vetters says there's a lot to like.

"I like the fact that they're even more self-contained than our previous systems (Pulsar® P4s). The units have no components mounted on the outside and they have a smaller footprint, which makes them easier for us to work around. Our p4s were nice, but the smaller footprint makes these new feeders easier to clean."

Regarding cleaning scheduling, Vetters and his staff appreciate the performance and design of the High Capacity Erosion system, with its highly effective built-in wash cycle.

"With our new Pulsar® Precision units, we can go 4 to 5 months before we have to do a deep clean."





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