



# CASE STUDY

## TROPICANA FIELD

**THE TAMPA BAY RAYS DO NOT  
HAVE TO PLAY IN THE DARK  
THANKS TO TEAM INFRATECH**

### SUMMARY

When a major feeder line failed at Tropicana Field with the Tampa Bay Rays about to enter the play-offs, the problem had to be solved right away. A large utility in Florida called on Infratech, and two crews were assigned to the project to make sure the job was done in time for the Rays' return.

### THE SITUATION

Infratech's Florida office was notified by the utility that a feeder cable, responsible for keeping most of Tropicana Field humming, had failed. This was a high priority project because the Tampa Bay Rays were at out-of-town games and the cable had to be replaced and energized prior to their return. Infratech was given ten days to complete the job.



### THE SOLUTION

Infratech's Area Supervisor went out to the stadium to investigate the situation. Given the time constraint, he decided to dedicate two crews, ten people in all, to the project. There was no doubt, 3,500 feet of feeder line had to be replaced without disturbing the field or the structure of the stadium. The decision was made to use trenchless technology to pull the old cable, and use the existing conduit if possible.

The two crews had been working for Infratech and with each other for up to five years, so they had established processes to get the job done efficiently and safely. Before deploying to the site on Friday, they all got together and came up with a game plan. If anything should change they would regroup to discuss the new

situation. This method of consistent communication eliminates confusion, allows crew members to make independent decisions and creates a much safer work environment.

3,500 feet of cable is bulky and awkward to work with, so while eight men pulled, two men cut the old cable into 12-18' sections to load it for the trip to the utility's yard for disposal.

The crew found that the existing 6" conduit could be re-used to install the new cable. That was great news! It would help to reduce the time to finish the job. They went about replacing the cable and completed the project in record time: two 15-hour work days. The utility's inspector was on-site for the duration and closely followed progress. He was so impressed with the attitude, experience and efficiency of the team that he emailed his supervisor from the site to tell him about the excellent result.

### THE RESULT

3,500 feet of cable were replaced in two days without digging trenches! Yes, they were long days but the crews decided to get the job done without interrupting work flow. The General Foreman attributes the resounding success to planning, communication and team work. Because the decision was made to reuse the conduit, it wasn't necessary to mobilize any drills, saving the utility a significant amount of money. Also, since the crews completed the project on a Friday and Saturday, they were able to continue other priority work in the county starting bright and early the following week.

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