

# MULTIFUNCTIONAL

## Australia's first AFL and cricket certified artificial pitch for Melbourne Grammar School



### Project info:

Project:	Wadhurst Oval Melbourne Grammar School
Country:	Australia
Installed in:	2011
Product:	Desso Ambition
Partner:	HG Sports Turf

*“With Desso Ambition, the drainage is superior and regardless of use, there is no mud and no oval closures, making it the ideal surface for the School’s winter sport AFL”*  
Greg Caldwell, Head of Wadhurst

### Ideal pitch for Australian football and cricket

Greg Caldwell, Head of Wadhurst, says: “the School was looking for an artificial turf system that passed the Australian Football League (AFL) and Cricket Australia (CA) artificial turf standards. The system also had to be student friendly. Desso Ambition does not use rubber infill, ensuring it is cooler for students in the summer months.”

### Tackles all weather conditions

“After years of drought, the School could not water the natural grass in the summer months, when the students play cricket. The oval lost grass cover and turned to dust, which is not ideal for cricket. In winter, we would see areas of the oval roped off or the oval closed because the playing surface turned to mud, and this mud would find its way into student change rooms and classrooms. Students play on the oval during recesses, lunchtime and after school,” states Mr Caldwell.

### Playing more frequently and for longer

Mr Caldwell: “However this winter, which has been a long wet winter, the oval has proven itself. With Desso Ambition, the drainage is superior and regardless of use, there is no mud and no oval closures, making it the ideal surface for the School’s winter sport Australian Rules Football.”

### First cricket certified pitch worldwide

The School’s new Desso Ambition oval was recently field tested and certified under AFL and CA artificial turf standards – a first for Australia and a first for cricket fields internationally.



Inspired by ANU, MGS also installed a Desso Ambition pitch.



The infill and shock pad of Desso Ambition can be reused entirely.

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**Desso**  
SPORTS SYSTEMS  
engineered to move you

# OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION

THE AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
AND CRICKET AUSTRALIA  
ARE PLEASED TO CONFIRM THAT

Desso Sports Systems by HG Sports Turf

Turf Product : Desso Ambition LLDPE 30

HAS BEEN INSTALLED AT

Field Name : Wadhurst Oval

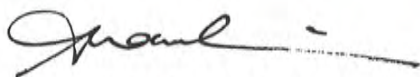
Field Location : Melbourne Grammar School

CLASSIFICATION

Junior AFL-CA Sports Field

PERIOD 01/04/11 - 31/03/12

THIS INSTALLATION HAS BEEN CERTIFIED  
ACCORDING TO AFL-CA AUSTRALIA STANDARDS



Andrew Demetriou  
AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CEO



James Sutherland  
CRICKET AUSTRALIA CEO



CRICKET  
AUSTRALIA

# MULTIFUNCTIONAL

## Desso 'down under'



### Project info:

Project: Australian National University (ANU)  
Country: Australia  
Installed: 2010  
Product: Desso Ambition

***“The new artificial grass surpasses the expectations of the university in terms of quality, the multi-purpose aspect and environmental-friendliness.”***

ANU project manager, Jeffrey Albrecht

Schools in Australia strongly encourage sport and the ANU is no exception.

Installation of artificial grass pitches has allowed their students to play a wide range of different sports on their multi-purpose Desso Ambition pitches.

### More sports

Natural grass demands a lot of time for repairs and is impossible to play on after heavy rainfall. Such issues prompted the biggest university in Australia to replace its natural grass pitches with artificial turf.

The result? The opportunity to play four times as much sport on each of the pitches than natural grass previously allowed.

### For more people

What's more, the pitches are ideally suited for the university's extensive sports programme. They have been tested for all levels of training and matches for different sports such as football, cricket, rugby, hockey and Australian football. Even more, the Desso Ambition pitch was awarded a FIFA 2\*\* recommended certificate for football.

### Having an eye for the environment

The switch to artificial grass fits in perfectly with the environmental plans of the university. It saves 15 million litres of water per year because the pitches no longer have to be watered. Moreover, the shockpad and pitch infill can last for two generations of artificial grass (>20 years).





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To Whom this May Concern,

This letter is to confirm that a Desso Sports System has recently been installed on Willows Oval at the ANU. The system includes a Desso Ambition 30mm monofilament carpet, 23mm Schmitz ProPlay shock pad and Envirofill infill material. The installation was completed to a very high standard in March 2010 by Desso's local partner HG Sports Turf who won the work through a competitive tender process.

The ANU was attracted to the Desso Ambition product because of its quality of manufacture, exceptional playing characteristics and environmental benefits. The project will result in an annual saving of 15 ML of water and is a key part of the ANU Environmental Management Plan which aims to eliminate the use of all potable water from the landscape by 2015.

The new artificial turf replaces two natural turf pitches and has dramatically increased the available playing hours per year. The new artificial turf pitches have passed all relevant artificial turf standards providing the ANU with a versatile all weather multisport facility without the reliance on natural resources. After six months of use the new synthetic surface has been widely accepted by sporting groups who enjoy using the facility and have provided positive feedback.

The construction and installation process was undertaken with a high level of professionalism. Follow up maintenance and back up support service has been provided without fail. It has been a pleasure working with Eric McGuire and Hamish Sutherland of Desso Sports Systems in the delivery of this very successful project. I would highly recommend the use of Desso Sports Systems and the Desso installation team to perspective clients.

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15/10/10



# FIELD CERTIFICATE

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## AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

FIFA is pleased to confirm that the

**DESSO AMBITION**

by

**DESSO SPORTS SYSTEMS**

has been installed at the

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY – CANBERRA (AUSTRALIA)**

From **27 MAY 2010** to **26 MAY 2011** this installation has been certified according to the **“FIFA QUALITY CONCEPT FOR FOOTBALL TURF – 2 STAR”**.

Field No. **AD-00.26**

Zurich, 27 May 2010

Mr. Joseph S. Blatter

President Fédération Internationale de Football Association



## Featured Article:

### The ANU embraces new Synthetic Turf Technology for Willows Oval from **HG SportsTurf**

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Aurims Conference | Lilydale Atrium Project | Parking Guidance System @ UOW |  
TEMC 2010 in Melbourne

# THE ANU EMBRACES NEW SYNTHETIC TURF TECHNOLOGY FOR WILLOWS OVAL

by Jeffery Albrecht

Willows Oval at the ANU has been converted to two 4th generation (latest technology) synthetic grass playing fields. The project was jointly funded by the ANU, SRA (Sport and Recreation Association) and the federal government (Green Precincts grant). The project is a key part of the ANU Environmental Management Plan which aims to eliminate the use of all potable water from the landscape by 2015.



The project was completed in March 2010 by Melbourne based HG Sports Turf. The 4th generation system (gen 4) was chosen because it has playing characteristics similar to a well kept natural grass pitch. Gen 4 differs from earlier generations of synthetic turf in that it does not use black granulated rubber infill, rather a silicone coated sand. This results in a significantly cooler playing surface that is odourless and non-toxic. The new surface also has a cooler friction gradient which greatly reduces the risk of skin burn compared to traditional synthetic turf. The turf system includes a foam shock pad that absorbs impacts without compromising the firmness of the playing surface.



The new artificial turf replaces two natural turf pitches and has increased the playing hours of each pitch from 500hrs to 2000hrs per year. The new artificial turf pitches have passed all relevant artificial turf standards (FIFA, IATS, IRB, FIH, AFL, and Cricket) and accommodates all levels of competition and training, including Premier League Football. Willows Oval is among the first 4th generation synthetic surfaces to achieve FIFA 2\*\* accreditation and is unique in its multisport application.

The project will result in an annual saving of 15 ML of water previously used to irrigate the old natural grass surface. An addition 5ML of rainwater can be harvested annually from the new synthetic surface via an underground tank and reticulation system. Purified water from this reservoir is used to irrigate the surrounding landscape. Another benefit is reduced maintenance compared to the old natural grass surface that required intensive mowing, fertilizing, weed and pest eradication.

The project has combined environmental awareness and innovation to produce a high quality multi purpose playing surface that can be used year round without the reliance on potable water and other resources.

Technical specifications:

Synthetic surface area: 14,500m<sup>2</sup>

Base: 150mm layer of compacted coarse aggregate

Drainage: vertical drainage at 1000mm per hour

Rainwater harvesting system: stormtech 500kL underground aquifer

Shock pad: 23mm schmitz ProPlay panels (made from recycled material)

Playing surface: Desso Ambition 30mm monoilament fibre

Infill material: Envirofill (naturally occurring product with acrylic coating)

Product life expectancy: playing surface 10 – 15 years, shock pad and infill 20+ years

Further information can be gained by contacting the ANU project manager at:  
[jeffrey.albrecht@anu.edu.au](mailto:jeffrey.albrecht@anu.edu.au)



# Bede College Get 'Ambitious' With Desso Sports and CLS

Stockton Riverside's new Bede College Campus has become the first site in the UK to install the revolutionary new Desso Ambition System. The College's new facility, located in Billingham near Middlesbrough, was constructed by local sportsturf contractors Cleveland Land Services.



Bede College representatives started the selection process for the optimum surface over two years ago and they were adamant that their selection needed to be 'state of the art'. Deputy Headteacher Mr Ged Coull states 'with significant investment into the latest and greatest technology within the new college buildings, it was imperative that the external facilities corresponded. A lot of time and effort went into selecting the right surface to meet our goal of a facility offering the highest possible playing standards for Football, whilst also satisfying our curriculum needs - Ambition does that perfectly'



Desso have developed the Ambition system, which is unlike anything else available at present. Instead of using rubber as an infill, the long-pile system uses "Envirofill" a recyclable, ecologically-responsible product with superb playing characteristics. There is no rubber splash, rubber odour or compaction that can occur on more traditional 3G pitches.

The Desso "Ambition" system achieves the highest football playing standards and because of the density of the fibres and special "Envirofill" it is also very good for hockey. With schools and clubs looking to maximise their facilities, this product will ensure that multi-sports can be achieved whilst still achieving a high level of play.

Mr. Coull added 'since opening the facility we have had exceptional feedback from all our users, stating that the playing characteristics for Football are excellent, whilst the level of Hockey it accommodates is beyond our expectation – justifying our decision to select Ambition'.

# FOOTBALL

## Weather-independent system for the Nordic FC Alvdal



### Project Info:

Club:	Alvdal
Country:	Norway
Installed in:	2008
Product:	Desso Ambition

***“Our experience after two months’ use is positive overall. The ball bounce and the heat build-up are comparable with a natural grass field that is kept short. It is excellent to play on.”***

Trainer FC Alvdal, Ivar Thoresen

### Weather-independent sport

Weather conditions are often a killjoy for training and competitions. With Desso Ambition you can play without problem, regardless of the weather.

The solar heat absorption of the grass surface is very low, which is a great advantage especially in hotter climates. In rainy regions the high drainage capacity allows for confident play. Frost has very little impact, and thanks to the Envirofill infill, clearing the pitch of snow is much easier.

This is a very important aspect for the cold, Nordic Alvdal. Scandinavian clubs such as Alvdal are very enthusiastic about their new Desso Ambition pitch.



Desso Ambition at FC Alvdal, Norway

### In the lead for durable playability

A player’s appreciation of an artificial grass pitch mainly depends on the play characteristics the surface provides. These must be optimal and uniform over the whole field. With the Desso Ambition system the sliding capabilities, ball control and shock absorption score better than ever, even after long-term use.

Trainer FC Alvdal, Ivar Thoresen: *“The ball bounce and the heat build-up are comparable with a natural grass field that is kept short. It is excellent to play on and we have noticed no serious problems with sliding tackles: the players can tackle without burns or injuries.”*



FC Alvdal, Norway