

# FOOTBALL

## FIRST ARTIFICIAL TURF PITCH ON THE ISLAND OF GUAM



### Project info:

Project: FIFA Goal Project  
Country: Guam  
Installed in: 2011  
Product: Desso iDNA  
Partner: HG Sports Turf

*“Playing hours have increased substantially and drainage has improved tremendously”*  
Richard K. Lai, President of Guam Football Association

By installing the first artificial grass field on the island of Guam, Desso Sports Systems lives up to its reputation as pioneer. The new artificial turf pitch replaces one natural grass field, and in so doing, increases the playing hours of that pitch by 4 times.

*“The previous pitch was wrought with drainage problems during heavy downpours common to Guam. It was also difficult to maintain and repair the pitch due to the high amount of usage by several adult and youth leagues, and coupled with year round national training sessions”,* says Richard K. Lai, President of Guam Football Association.

*“The playing hours have increased substantially with the installation of the new pitch. The drainage has improved tremendously and was installed with regard to Guam’s history of typhoons. The edge of the artificial grass is buried beneath pavers to prevent typhoon winds from lifting the artificial turf. The pitch is built on coarse aggregate with drain pipes, guaranteeing no surface water, even during a 1 in 20 year storm”,* Richard K. Lai explains.

Richard K. Lai: *“It has been a pleasure working with Desso Sports Systems and its partner HG Sports Turf. In fact, we are recommending them to install a second artificial pitch.”*



The Desso iDNA pitch is the first artificial grass field on the island of Guam.



The pitch was installed with regard to Guam’s history of typhoons and heavy rains.

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# Guam Football Association

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President

6 April 2011

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To Whom this May Concern,

The Guam Football Association would like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of Desso Sports Systems and HG Sports Turf, who together, were responsible for designing and building the first artificial turf football pitch for the association. In fact, the Desso pitch, was the first artificial turf football pitch to be built on the island of Guam. The pitch was joint-funded by Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) through the FIFA GOAL Programme and the Government of Guam, and it was completed in February 2011.

Desso iDNA40 is a new 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation artificial turf from Desso Sports Systems, incorporating soft yet resilient grass fibres, and an underlying shock pad. Desso iDNA40 has been designed for long-term performance, it has been tested under 20,000 hours of simulated wear and it passes FIFA 2-Star artificial turf standards. It is expected that the underlying shock pad and drainage system will last many installations of artificial turf, providing a long-term investment for Guam Football Association.

The new artificial turf pitch replaces one existing natural grass pitch, and in so doing, increases the playing hours of that pitch by 4 times. The previous pitch was wrought with drainage problems during heavy downpours common to Guam and under wet playing conditions the damage would increase. It was also difficult to maintain and repair the pitch due to the high amount of usage by several adult and youth leagues, and coupled with year round national training sessions for our men's, women's and youth teams, the field would require weeks of downtime and many hours of lost playing/training time.

As stated above, the playing hours have increased substantially with the installation of the new pitch. The drainage has improved tremendously and was installed with regard to Guam's history of typhoons. The edge of the artificial grass is buried beneath pavers to prevent typhoon winds from lifting the artificial turf, and the pitch is built on course aggregate with drain pipes, guaranteeing no surface water, even during a 1 in 20 year typhoon storm.

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The slope of the pitch is 0.1%, almost flat, making it ideal for competition football. Laser levelling guarantees the slope is consistent over the entire pitch.

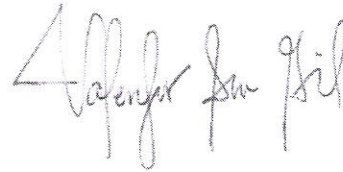
With one team being responsible for both design and construction, the works were managed efficiently and precisely, with no overruns. The versatility of team was evident throughout the project, with value being added at every opportunity. We were delighted when Desso Sports Systems and HG Sports Turf offered to install a shock pad with the artificial turf. We were also delighted when the topsoil from the old natural turf pitch was retained and used to level our other natural turf pitch without cost to the association.

It has been a pleasure to work with Eric Mcguire from Desso Sports Systems and Hamish Sutherland from HG Sports Turf and we look forward to undertaking further projects with them in the near future. In fact, we have already received another FIFA *GOAL* award and because of the workmanship and professionalism of Desso Sports Systems and HG Sports Turf, we are recommending them to handle the installation of a second artificial pitch.

We would highly recommend Desso Sports Systems and HG Sports Turf to perspective clients.



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# FOOTBALL PLAYING FOOTBALL ON TOP OF PARKED CARS BRINGS YOUNG PLAYERS TOGETHER



## Project info:

Club: Alemannia Aachen  
Country: Germany  
Installation: 2011  
Product: Desso iDNA

*“The new artificial grass pitches have contributed to the club spirit. We now truly have an Alemannia Aachen family”*  
Erik Meijer, Director of Sport at Alemannia Aachen

At the youth centre of Alemannia Aachen, across the Tivoli Stadium, 16.800m<sup>2</sup> of Desso iDNA artificial grass was installed on top of a car park. The artificial pitches bring all divisions of Alemannia Aachen together. Everyone now plays and trains on the same location.

Erik Meijer, Director of Sport at Alemannia Aachen: *“The new artificial grass pitches have contributed to the club spirit. Before the installation of the artificial pitches, the youth division trained at different amateur clubs in the surrounding areas of Aachen. This situation didn’t do much good to the club spirit. The players just put on their black-and-yellow shirts but didn’t feel connected to Alemannia Aachen.”*

*“A good youth division is important for the durability of the club. Talented young players have to be able to develop their skills and have to feel connected to the club. Thanks to the artificial grass pitches, our youth division is centralized in one place, next to the Tivoli stadium. There now is much more vibration around the stadium and the young players are much more attached to the club. We now truly have an Alemannia Aachen family,”* says Meijer.

Meijer: *“The first experiences with the pitch are great. The sub base is perfectly adjusted for technical training sessions and sliding-tackles can be performed perfectly.”*



The youth division of Alemannia Aachen now trains next to the Tivoli Stadium.



During installation, only light equipment was allowed on the 10 m high roof.

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# FOOTBALL

## 'THE MONSTERS CAVE' EQUIPPED WITH DESSO ARTIFICIAL GRASS



### Project info:

Club:	Deportivo Saprissa
Country:	Costa Rica
Installed in:	2010
Product:	Desso iDNA
Partner:	Grama-Tech

*"The pitch allows us to have a better ball control and play a faster game"*

Fernando Paniagua, midfielder at Saprissa

Deportivo Saprissa has certainly earned her nickname 'El Monstruo Morado' (the purple dragon). Having won the CONCACAF Cup - the equivalent of the European UEFA Champions League - three times, the Costa Rican club is one of the best in the American continent.

Due to long tropical rain seasons, the club was forced to replace her natural grass pitch with an artificial turf field. With Desso iDNA, the Ricardo Saprissa stadium (nicknamed 'the Monsters Cave') is equipped with a durable, flexible, resilient and water-absorbing artificial grass pitch that has the same look and feel as natural grass.

*« We are very happy with the new pitch. It allows us to have a better ball control and play a faster game. It is a pitch of the highest quality,»* says Fernando Paniagua, midfielder at Saprissa.

The stadium is by all means a true multifunctional venue. Not only does it host football matches, it was also used for concerts of e.g. The Black Eyed Peas and Shakira, and other events such as monster truck driving.



Desso iDNA at the Ricardo Saprissa Stadium in Costa Rica.



The pitch is the 1000<sup>th</sup> FIFA Recommended Field™.

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# FOOTBALL PLAYING ON DESSO TURF IN A VOLCANO



## Project info:

Club: Chivas  
Country: Mexico  
Installed in: 2009  
Product: Desso iDNA  
Partner: LJV Sport

*“Continuing prestigious football in Estadio Omnilife on Desso artificial grass”*

### Playing on Desso iDNA in a volcano

Impossible you reckon? In Mexico they took up the challenge. Club Deportivo Guadalajara, one of the most popular football clubs in Latin America, has built an innovative stadium in the form of a volcano. The artificial turf, Desso iDNA, completes Chivas' new home ground.

### Grand opening against Manchester Utd.

A prestigious match between Manchester United and Chivas meant the grand opening of the stadium. It was the first time ever Manchester Utd. played in Mexico, but the home team won the game with 3-2.

### Top football all year round

The Copa Libertadores, the most prestigious club competition in South American football was also hosted in Estadio Omnilife. Moreover the stadium was selected as one of the hosts for the coming FIFA U-17 World Cup™ and a training match against NY Red Bulls is scheduled too.

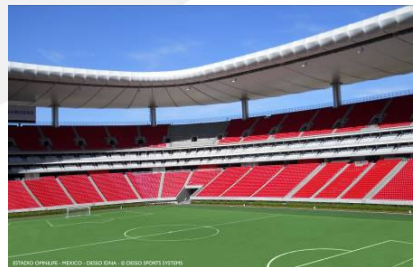
### United with the environment

Estadio Omnilife (El Templo Mayor) was perfectly integrated into its environment, the green surroundings providing the inspiration for the stadium's design.

Artificial turf was an obvious choice here. No water is required for sprinklers and maintenance costs are considerably lower. Moreover, playing on an artificial turf pitch is always possible, no matter what the weather conditions are.



Estadio Omnilife was perfectly integrated in its green environment.



The pitch was granted a FIFA 2 Star Certificate™.

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