

## **SYNTHETIC TURF SYSTEM AT HERACLES ALMELO ONCE AGAIN RATED EXCELLENT**

Deventer, the Netherlands, Thursday 1 July 2010 – **During the annual inspection of Heracles Almelo's synthetic turf system at the Polman Stadium in Almelo (the Netherlands) a statement issued on behalf of FIFA recorded that, after two years of intensive use and professional maintenance, the system is still in excellent condition. The independent testing institute, Sports Labs Ltd of Scotland, which conducted the inspection for FIFA, is this year again impressed by the condition of the pitch and its underlying construction. It was also evident that the synthetic turf fibres are exceptionally well able to resist wear. The pitch was once again awarded a FIFA 2 Star endorsement, the highest certification in professional football.**

The Dutch professional soccer club Heracles Almelo (Premier League) plays its home matches on the synthetic turf system known as 'Two Dimension Pro', which was installed in the Polman Stadium in the summer of 2008. The club also practises on this pitch several times a week. Players' reactions continue to be unreservedly positive, partly because they themselves or their former team mates were able to make a contribution to the system design, based on their own experiences, wishes and expectations.

The design partners of this synthetic turf system are TenCate (fibres, backing and infill), Edel Grass (FIFA Preferred Producer of the top layer), Sekisui Alveo (sports layer) and Oranjewoud Realisatie (installation and maintenance). Gosewin Bos, Business Manager at Oranjewoud, explains: 'The combination of the quality of the overall construction, and the maintenance package ensures that the pitch continues to deliver a top-notch performance. The components of this system are geared to each other to produce the best sport characteristics, such as ball roll, ball rebound, shock absorption, low sliding resistance, comfort when running and excellent grip of the studs in the pitch. Thanks to our joint system approach, the highest possible quality and a long lifespan can be achieved'.

### **Sustainable reuse**

TenCate Grass, Edel Grass and Oranjewoud regard the Polman Stadium as the showroom for new synthetic turf systems. To this end, the very latest system is installed here every couple of years, as occurred in 2003, 2005 and 2008. Heracles Almelo's synthetic turf system which was installed in 2005 has been in use by amateur soccer club SV Gramsbergen (from Gramsbergen, the Netherlands) since its removal from the Polman Stadium in the summer of 2008. The infill and the sand from the previous system are being reused in a number of Dutch Cruyff Courts and other football pitches for young people in the Netherlands. This is in line with the sustainable system approach practised by all the partners involved.

Digital footage is available on request via [media@tencate.com](mailto:media@tencate.com)

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**Oranjewoud Realisatie** is one of the foremost players in the development and installation of sports accommodation. Oranjewoud endeavours to operate a concept approach, in which from the very start it can provide advice, engineering, installation and management. [www.oranjewoud.nl/realisatie](http://www.oranjewoud.nl/realisatie)

**Edel Grass** is a leading supplier of synthetic turf systems, particularly for use in sports such as hockey, tennis and football. The company has been operating in these markets since the early years of the development of synthetic turf. As a FIFA Preferred Producer and FIH Licensee, Edel Grass focuses particularly on the Netherlands and the European Union and on the strategically defined growth regions of the Middle East and North America. Edel Grass has the exclusive right to market the Two Dimension Pro System worldwide. [www.edelgrass.com](http://www.edelgrass.com)

**TenCate Grass** develops and produces synthetic turf components for sport, recreation and landscape applications. TenCate Grass has production operations in Europe, the Middle East and North America. Together with its partners, TenCate endeavours to operate a system approach. This gives users confidence in its playing characteristics and lifespan. [www.tencategrass.com](http://www.tencategrass.com)

