

FIELD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY DIRECTORY

Here is a listing of companies that construct or renovate athletic fields:

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www.atdsportsfield.qpg.com



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270-842-0473



Alpine Services, Inc.
Galtersburg, MD
800-292-8420
www.alpineservices.com



American Civil Constructors, Inc.
Littleton, CO
303-795-2582
www.aconstructors.com

Architerra, PC
Coopersburg, PA
610-282-1398

Athletic Fields, Inc.
Cartersville, GA
770-382-7284



Athletic Fields Tennessee
Humboldt, TN
866-287-4763



Athletic Field Services, Inc.
Oregon, OH
419-836-5730
www.athleticfieldservices.com

Ballard Sports
Cary, NC
919-654-6814
www.ballardsports.com

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A DIVISION OF BEALS ALLIANCE
Beals Sport
San Clara, CA
408-985-7200
www.bealssports.com



Robert A. Bothman, Inc.
San Jose, CA
408-279-2277
www.bothman.com



Carolina Green Corp.
Indian Trail, NC
704-753-1707
www.cgfields.com



Championship Turf Surfaces
Harwinton, CT
860-485-0219

Clark Companies
Delhi, NY
607-746-2727
www.clarkcompanies.com



Colony Landscape & Maintenance, Inc.
Alviso, CA
408-941-1090
www.colonylandscape.com

Creative Landscape & Irrigation, Inc.
Maugansville, MD
301-745-5737
www.creativeirrigation.com

Diamond Athletic Turf, Inc.
Stow, MA
978-897-0344

Duraturf Service Corp.
Richmond, VA
800-358-8283



Fielders Choice Inc.
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www.fielderschoiceinc.com

GSI Consultants/Turfcon
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732-247-8026

Gale Associates Inc.
Weymouth, MA
781-335-6465

Geller Sport
Boston, MA
617-523-8103
www.gellersport.com

Grant Sports Fields
Columbus, GA
706-596-9236
www.grantsportsfields.com

GreenTech, Inc.
Savannah, GA
912-353-7944
www.greentechit.com

Greenway Services
Horsham, PA
215-343-0110

Gregori International
Miami, FL
305-663-7393
www.gregori.com

D.A. Hogan & Associates
Seattle, WA
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Huffman SportScope Inc.
Independence, KY
859-647-3000

Hummer Turfgrass Systems Inc.
Lancaster, PA
800-872-8873
www.usaturf.com

The LandTek Group, Inc.
Amityville, NY
631-691-2381
www.landtekgroup.com



Lawn Care Unlimited
Leavenworth, KS
913-682-6706

Mercer Group, Inc.
Troy, OH
937-335-7100
www.mercer-group.com

Mid-Atlantic Turf, Inc.
Gaithersburg, MD
301-990-0315
www.mid-atlanticturf.com



The Motz Group, Inc.
Cincinnati, OH
513-533-6452
www.themotzgroup.com

Munie Outdoor Services
Caseyville, IL
618-632-5296



RTM Sport, Inc.
Burtonsville, MD
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R.T. MacKenzie, Inc.
Burtonsville, MD
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Realty Landscaping Corp.
Phoenixville, PA
610-631-2523
www.realtylandscaping.com



Glenn Rehbein Co.
Blaine, MN
763-784-0657

REIL Construction, Inc.
Union, IL
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Rettler Corp.
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SPORTEXE
Fonthill, Ontario, Canada
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www.sportexe.com

Sports Field Consultants
Duncanville, TX
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SRI Sports
Leander, TX
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Sportscape International
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Sports Turf Company
Whitesburg, GA
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Team All Sports
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Turf Services
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U.S. Athletic Fields
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Wilson & Associates
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Al Capitos

BY EVAN LUBOFSKY

DATA LOGGERS IMPROVE TURF MANAGEMENT AT CAMDEN YARDS

One is buried behind the mound of Baltimore's Oriole Park at Camden Yards, the other in right field.

The crowd can't see them, nor can the players. In fact, only a handful of people know they are there, entrenched just 2 inches below the lush green ball field.

What are these objects buried beneath one of America's most beautiful ballparks? If you guessed Orioles season's tickets or Cal Ripken's old batting gloves, guess again.

They are data loggers—tiny, battery-powered devices that Oriole Park groundskeepers use to continuously monitor soil temperature throughout the season. More specifically, the loggers are used to record and time-stamp field root-zone temperatures over month-long intervals, at which time the data is offloaded onto a PC for graphing and analysis.

"We try to track field conditions to the greatest extent possible, and part of our strategy is to use data loggers as a record-keeping mechanism," explains Al Capitos, head groundskeeper at Oriole Park. "By keeping track of the temperatures over time, we can establish trends, which ultimately puts us in a better position to proactively deal with turf diseases associated with high soil temperatures."

Capitos monitors the soil with HOBO H8 data loggers from Onset Computer Corp. The H8 incorporates a microprocessor, an internal temperature sensor, and a user-replaceable battery into a hard-plastic casing slightly larger than a matchbox. By burying one H8 behind the pitcher's mound and the other in the outfield, the groundskeeping team can profile two distinctly different microclimates that exist at the stadium. Each logger is housed in a moisture-resistant enclosure, and takes temperature readings every 30 minutes.

After a month's worth of data has been collected, groundskeepers "unearth" the data loggers and offload the data from each onto a PC. Using Onset's software, the data is immediately translated into easy-to-read graphs that clearly show spikes and drops in root zone temperature. The data is then matched up with soil temperature readings that are taken manually with a probe, a process that Capitos refers to as "double-measuring."

"Some people may think this is way too much information, but we believe that having as much temperature data as possible is key to really getting in touch with the field," he says.

One area where data loggers have really proved their value at Oriole Park is in crabgrass prevention. In order for a pre-emergent herbicide to be effective in preventing crabgrass, the field must be sprayed after the soil temperature has been 55 degrees F for at least 4 days. According to Capitos, historical data recorded by the loggers over the past several seasons helps them predict when this block of time is likely to occur.

"The year-to-year data allows us to almost predict exactly when the temperatures will break," he says. "Knowing this helps us make good decisions as to when we need to spray. After all, the chemicals we spray on the field are expensive, and we have an obligation to be responsible applicators. I sure wouldn't want to be the guy who goes out and puts down chemicals ineffectively."

Capitos now trains new turf management interns on using the products. "We have interns from a variety of schools, including Penn State and Iowa State, and it's great to get them involved with the equipment so they can visualize the collected data and begin learning how to predict trends. It's fun for the students, and they can take the knowledge and experience with them after they graduate and go on to manage their first field."

Since the data loggers were originally buried in the spring of 1999, they have been functioning without any problems. Capitos has been impressed with their durability, and feels that any ballfield, especially those with a variety of microclimates, could benefit from the technology.

He says, "The most important thing is that we can now manage our field proactively instead of having to catch up with problems that we didn't expect."

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Evan Lubofsky works for Onset Computer Corp., www.onsetcomp.com.

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GREGORI INTERNATIONAL

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Gregori International/305-663-7393

For information, circle 059 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2086-059



SPORTS TURF COMPANY

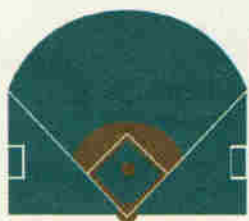
Sports Turf Company, Inc., has been renovating and constructing sports fields since 1987, including the 1996 Olympic softball complex in Columbus, GA. Initially, renovated local high school and parks & recreation fields.

Joint ventures with landscape architects include the Atlanta Falcons Training Facility, the Atlanta Beat WUSA Professional Soccer Stadium, Auburn University's Jordan-Hare Football Stadium.

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ALPINE SERVICES

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Alpine Services, Inc./800-292-8420

For information, circle 056 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2086-056



GENERALSPTS TURF SYSTEMS

GeneralSports Turf Systems completed installation of their GameDay Grass MP in less than 6 days for Martin Luther King High School in Detroit. It was the team's first home game in three seasons because the old field was condemned. "We were confident we could meet the tight requirements," said Jon Pritchett, president of GeneralSports Turf.

GeneralSports Turf/248-601-2200

For information, circle 064 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2086-064

MERCER GROUP

Mercer Group is a regional athletic field contractor specializing in high school and college facilities serving the Richmond IN, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Dayton, OH areas.

Services include construction, renovation, laser grading, drainage systems, drill/slice seeding, core aeration, sod installation, grading, and field installation.

Mercer Group/937-335-7100

For information, circle 057 or

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Sportcourt/801-972-0260

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SAVING A WORLD CUP PITCH

When officials look back on the situation, it could have been a tremendous national embarrassment. South Korea's prestigious Daegu Stadium was the site for the FIFA World Cup soccer games and the first match was scheduled for June 6, 2002. However, just months before the match, the turf started falling apart during practice exhibitions.

"The South Korean press started to get wind of the situation and it was a potential public relations nightmare for the stadium, the city and South Korea," recalls Jeong Nam Choe, South Korea sales manager for Novozymes Biologicals, one of the resources called in to help fix the turf. "However, a cooperative effort quickly helped turn the situation around before the start of the World Cup."

Daegu Stadium is Korea's largest, with room for 65,000 fans. Construction of the new stadium was completed on May 20, 2001. It was a coup in itself for the stadium and South Korea to host the World Cup games and city officials had great expectations for the matches.

When the stadium was constructed, the field's pitch was initially established with sod but it did not take root. During an exhibition game in the fall of 2001, the newly hired head coach of the South Korean team noticed the turf was uprooted and the players were sliding on the field. He complained to the mayor of Daegu City, who personally came to inspect the turf.

Recognizing that he had a



Daegu Stadium is a pride of South Korea.

EVEN DAEGU'S MAYOR DEMANDED THE GROUNDS MANAGER TAKE ACTION

serious problem on his hands, the mayor ordered the grounds manager, Soung Yong Tak, to find an immediate solution.

"The grounds manager immediately consulted with the Korean Turf Research Institute (KTRI), which was called in to help," Choe says.

A microbial solution

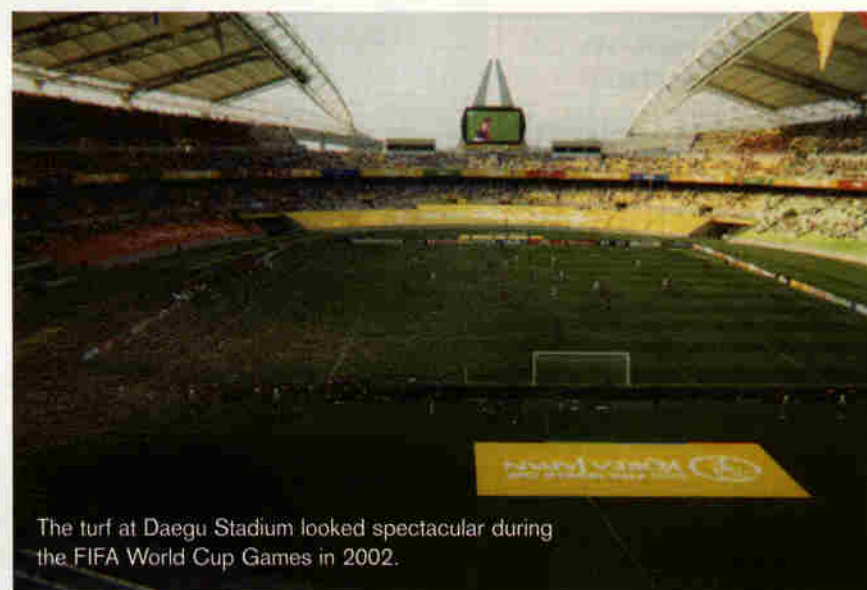
In the case of Daegu Stadium, KTRI recommended the use of TurfVigor to correct the root quality problem. TurfVigor contains a formulation of beneficial microbes and a blend of nutrients and biostimulants to provide turf with the compounds it needs for growth, health, and stress tolerance. For the Daegu turf, the product helped establish the turf by promoting healthier roots and more efficient water uptake. "I remember that the groundskeeper was doubtful that the product would work at the time, but he had no

choice. He went with KTRI's recommendation," recalls Choe.

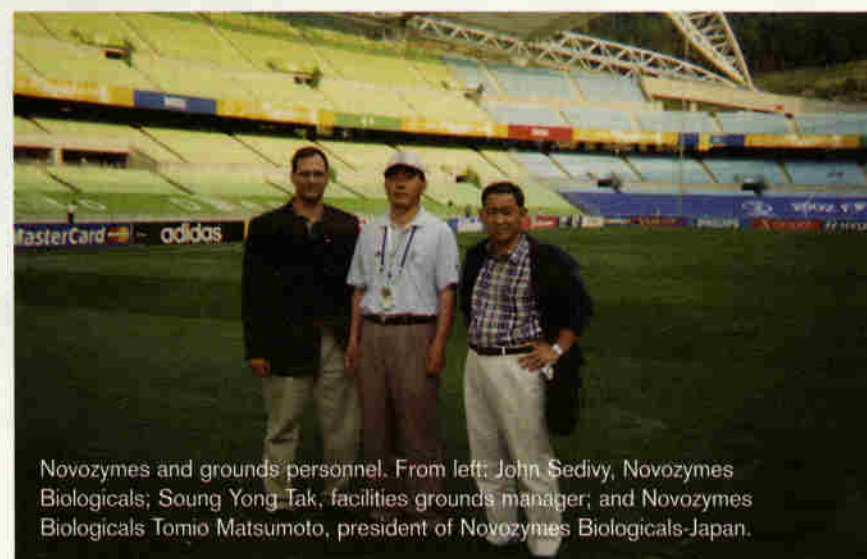
TurfVigor was applied according to the product label starting in October 2001. After timely watering and a month of waiting, the turf managers noticed that the rooting depth increased to 10 centimeters or more and the entire turf condition, including color and growth, soon started to improve. It wasn't long before the stadium had the best pitch of all the Korean football stadiums (there are 10). Once the roots were established, exhibition games were resumed on the turf without incident. And in June 2002, the stadium and the city hosted three first-round matches and the third-place match on a healthy, show-case turf. As Choe recalls, there was a collective sigh of relief.

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This story was provided by Novozymes Biologicals, a worldwide leader in the research, development, and manufacture of applied microbiology for commercial use.



The turf at Daegu Stadium looked spectacular during the FIFA World Cup Games in 2002.



Novozymes and grounds personnel. From left: John Sedivy, Novozymes Biologicals; Soung Yong Tak, facilities grounds manager; and Novozymes Biologicals Tomio Matsumoto, president of Novozymes Biologicals-Japan.