

# Latest weather technology for turf managers

BY CHRIS WHITTINGHILL

OFTEN imitated.  
imitated.  
**NEVER  
equalled.**



Luzhniki Olympic Stadium - Moscow, Russia



Georgia Dome - Atlanta, Georgia



Tokyo Dome - Tokyo, Japan



Nickerson Field - Boston, MA



Seahawks Stadium - Seattle, WA



Giants Stadium - East Rutherford, NJ

### The One and Only

- 1st FIFA Recommended Field (Nickerson Field, MA)
- 1st UEFA Cup Qualifying Round (Torpedo, Moscow)
- 1st International Rugby League Game (Olympic Stadium, Russia)
- 1st FIFA Soccer Tournament (Jeux de la Francophonie)
- 1st International Rugby Union Game (Taipei vs Hong Kong)
- 1st Warmup Area of Main Pitch (Twickenham, UK)
- 1st (and only) Turf in Top 3 in NFL Best Field Survey (2002)
- 1st (and only) Independent Safety Testing (Barnhill / 99-03)
- 1st (and only) with Biomechanical Testing (Shorten / 2002)
- 1st (and only) Third Party Insured Warranty
- 1st NCAA Stadium (University of Nebraska)
- 1st NFL Stadium (Seahawk Stadium, Seattle)
- 1st MLB Stadium (Tropicana Field, FL)
- 1st High School Stadium (Ringgold High School, PA)

### The Most Engineered System

- Most Installations - 900
- Most Installations 5 or More Years Old - 117
- Most FIFA Recommended Fields - 19
- Most Premier League Academies - 18
- Most NCAA Team Stadiums - 17
- Most NCAA Team Practice Fields - 12
- Most NFL Team Stadiums - 5
- Most NFL Team Practice Fields - 17
- Most Unsuccessful Imitators - countless

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**1st in the minds of Sports Turf Managers Worldwide!**



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The next generation of weather technology is here and with it comes convenience and simplicity for turf managers. Weather service information helps handle rain delays and event management while protecting patron, player, and employee safety.

Accurate weather information means a smoother running operation and more control over budget. Weather forecasts are easy to interpret, readily available via the Internet, and can be set up to go anywhere the user goes via cell phones, pagers, and e-mail. The result is precise, real-time weather information that provides both advance warning and adequate preparation times for severe weather events that could impact users' location(s) of interest.

For sports turf managers weather technology offers up-to-the-minute weather information including the ability to accurately gauge rainfall and severe weather, monitor lightning, check wind speed, and keep tabs on the heat index. Localized forecasts provide accurate outlooks at hourly intervals as far as 10 days out. Rainfall details on how much rain will fall and how much is already on the ground helps managers determine irrigation schedules.

### Lightning protection

Because safety is a top priority, weather systems afford turf managers the chance to set up custom advisories and receive weather information that is only pertinent to their exact location. For example, to offer protection against lightning, today's weather systems sound an alarm or issue an audible warning when a lightning strike occurs within a stadium's designated coverage area.

State-of-the-art weather systems should also be able to provide precise precipitation monitoring tools to automatically monitor radar data for exact start and stop times for rain and other precipitation events affecting that location. Alarms can be set for notice of light, moderate or heavy precipitation, which prepares you to give advance warning of anticipated conditions and plans for proactive action. By using alarms and alerts, you know when severe storms are approaching as well as exact arrival times so that ground crews can be advised and work schedules adjusted. **ST**

Chris Whittinghill is with Meteorlogix, [www.meteorlogix.com](http://www.meteorlogix.com).