Installing Terraplas for a concert in June 2006.

Soccer-specific STADIUM continues trend

Toyota Park, paid for by the Village of Bridgeview, IL, cost $98 million to build and is the fourth soccer-specific "entertainment venue" in the United States. Located about 15 miles southwest of Chicago's downtown Loop, Toyota Park can seat 20,000 for a soccer game and up to 28,000 for concerts.

All 9,000 seats finally set up.

Day after early September Kenny Chesney show that was less than 12 hours before a home game. The last piece of Terraplas was removed 10 hours before the game started.

Last regular season home game in October.
AEG manages the facility for the Village, and Abby McNeal, CSFM, who also serves as Vice President of the Sports Turf Managers Association, manages the turf. The field is 95% sand 5% peat, built on top of 4 inches of pea gravel. It features sub-surface heating and a SubAir system to assist in growing the best turf around, McNeal says.

Built as home to Major League Soccer's Chicago Fire, it also begins serving as home in 2007 to Major League Lacrosse's Chicago Machine. McNeal says a typical annual schedule will include 30-35 soccer games and, for this year at least, eight lacrosse games. Concerts will be determined as the year progresses but so far four are planned for 2007, she says.