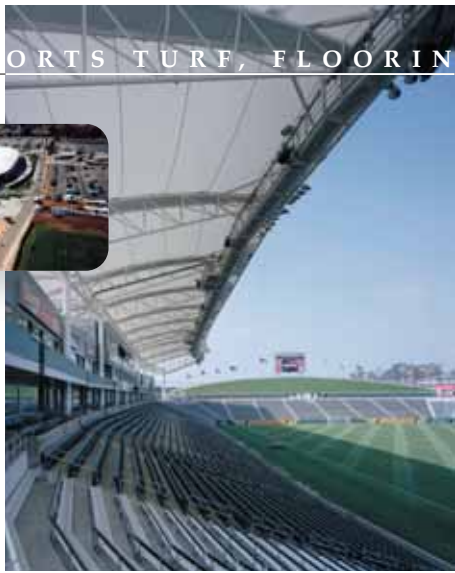




*The Home Depot Centre in Carson, CA, USA — featuring state-of-the-art stadia.*



*The 27,000-seat soccer stadium at Home Depot Center.*

*The Home Depot Center recently chose Terraflor® to protect its main asset... its turf!*

The Home Depot Center (HDC) is a 125-acre development in Carson, California, USA, which features state-of-the-art stadia, with facilities for soccer, tennis, track & field, cycling, volleyball, baseball, softball, basketball and other sports. Designated as an "Official U.S. Olympic Training Site", The Home Depot Center is the U.S.A.'s most complete training facility for Olympic, amateur and professional athletes.

The Home Depot Center was created around a 27,000-seat soccer stadium, a 13,000-seat tennis stadium, a 20,000-seat track & field facility, and an indoor velodrome.

# COMING HOME



The complex opened in June 2003 and the HDC has since staged a number of events, including the 2003 World Women's World Cup Soccer Finals, the World Sevens International Rugby Championships, the MLS Cup League Finals, the 2003 MLS All-Star Game, Southern California C.I.F. Football Championships and the recently concluded SuperMoto Event for the 2004 'X' Games, to name but a few.

### Protection is Vital

The protection of their grass playing surface is therefore critical, not least as the stadium is not only the home of MLS team

*Below left: Home Depot Center is home to the MLS team 'Los Angeles Galaxy' and will also become the home ground of the MLS team 'C.D. Chivas USA' in 2005.*



'Los Angeles Galaxy' but, beginning in 2005 a second MLS Team, 'C.D. Chivas USA' — owned and named after the Chivas de Guadalajara soccer team in Mexico — will also call The Home Depot Center it's 'home stadium'.

The addition of the second team creates further pressure on the already busy schedule, which includes training for the men's and women's national teams. As a result, it is not possible to re-sod the field during the lengthy soccer season. It is therefore an even greater priority for the stadium management of HDC to ensure the maximum protection of the field when hosting their six major concert tours per year.

### AEG In Action

AEG, the owner and operator of the complex, is one of the leading sports and entertainment presenters in the world. AEG, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Anschutz Corporation, owns or controls a collection of companies including facilities such as: STAPLES Center; The Home Depot Center; The Forum (as exclusive booking agent for sports and entertainment programming); HealthSouth Training Center; NOKIA live at Grand Prairie and Kodak Theater (as operator); sports

franchises including the Los Angeles Kings (NHL); the Manchester Monarchs (AHL); Reading Royals (ECHL); Chicago Fire; DC United; Los Angeles Galaxy; Metrostars and San Jose Earthquakes (MLS). The company also operates five hockey franchises in Europe and the management of shares in the Los Angeles Lakers (NBA) and Los Angeles Sparks (WNBA), owned by Philip Anschutz; AEG Marketing, a sponsorship, sales, naming rights and consulting company; AEG Merchandising, a multi-faceted merchandising company; AEG Creative, a full-service marketing and advertising agency and AEG LIVE, a collection of companies devoted to all aspects of live entertainment including: AEG TV (formerly Spring Communications), devoted to the creation and marketing of live events for pay-per-view and other electronic media; Creative Battery, producers of live entertainment for a variety of media and venues; AEG Tours & Special Events and Golden Voice, live entertainment promotion and touring companies. AEG LIVE is currently producing 'Celine Dion A New Day...Presented By Chrysler', a spectacular theatrical production starring Dion and an international cast of 60 dancers, musicians and artists, directed by Franco Dragone ▶

AEG was recently selected to fully develop the 28-acre Millennium Dome and adjacent property, located in the eastern part of London, England, along the River Thames, and will create new arenas within the Millennium Dome, as well as on a 50-acre site in the heart of Berlin, Germany.



*Above: The Home Depot Center needed to find a system to protect their field...*

*...they chose Terraflor®, manufactured by Terraplas Plc from the UK (right).*





Top left: The set-up for The Cure and Dave Matthews Band concerts at Home Depot Center.



Top right: Terraflor® scores highly in the storage stakes as it is compact and easy to stack.

## COMING HOME

and now appearing at the Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

AEG is currently overseeing the development of L.A. Live, a proposed four million square foot development, featuring a 7,000-seat state-of-the-art live theatre, a 1,200-room convention 'headquarters' hotel, along with entertainment, restaurant, residential and office space, all adjacent to STAPLES Center.

### Home Depot Center

AEG Senior Vice President of Operations, Lee Zeidman, commenting on the purchase of 9,000m<sup>2</sup> of Terraflor®, for protecting their field, said: "This is a move we anticipated [i.e. the purchase of a Turf Protection System] when we were planning the Stadium [Home Depot Center] and have continued to research and test all of the alternatives on the market, until we determined that Terraflor® would be the best product for us. Not only does Terraflor® protect the Stadium grass better than any other product on the market, it locks together and overlaps, making a floor that is outstanding for our concert guests, as well as a great work surface for the production and operations staff.

The Terraflor® system has already been put to the test, with two sold-out concerts starring the Dave Matthews Band, who played the stadium for two nights, immediately following The Cure's appearance."

The set-up for The Cure's concert (August 27th) and the Dave Matthews Band (August 28th and 29th, commenced on August 25th and removal of the Terraflor® took place on August 30th. It should also be noted that the turf was only one week old, was covered for nearly six days, and a game was played the following week!

### Terraflor® Takes Centre Stage

Terraflor® is manufactured by Terraplas plc, who are renowned for their Terraplas® turf protection system, which has sold some half a million square metres (five million square feet) worldwide. Terraplas® is in fact responsible for protecting the turf at most of the world's top multi-purpose stadia.

Terraflor® is covered by the same patents as Terraplas® as it works in exactly the same way, allowing the passage of air and light, thereby ensuring that the grass continues to grow, even whilst covered. Terraflor® is merely a natural progression with some highly innovative features, making a near perfect product even better!

### Ingenious Design Features

These innovative features include versatility in its application for both natural and artificial turf fields. It is designed to stop fluids and dirt passing through the tile to the turf and causing damage. This is achieved by the whole system overlapping and interlocking, ensuring that there are no gaps. Terraflor® also has an inbuilt expansion capability of some 9mm per m<sup>2</sup>, which is considerably more than is required to avoid lifting due to expansion with temperature variations.

The loading weights that Terraflor® can resist are virtually the same as Terraplas®, which means that even mixing towers of some 100 tonnes can be accommodated simply by spreading the load with scaffold boards.

The number of venues utilising fourth generation artificial turf is growing exponentially, however it is not yet widely understood that artificial turf actually requires a greater degree of protection than natural turf. There are two main reasons for this:

- ◆ Any harmful substance that gets on to the artificial turf remains there and festers, whereas with natural turf it would grow out.
- ◆ Should an area of natural turf get damaged it can easily be replaced, you cannot do this with artificial turf.

Terraflor® has been specifically designed to address these problems.

All in all, it's clear that the management at Home Depot Center did their homework well when they chose arguably one of the world's finest turf protection systems, Terraflor® by Terraplas plc. ■

For further information visit:  
[www.terraplas.com](http://www.terraplas.com)



Above: Terraflor® – seen here at The Home Depot Center ready for The Cure and Dave Matthews Band concerts.

Below: The Terraflor® was removed after six days and the turf was virtually ready for play.

