



October 27, 2014

Re: Recent Crumb Rubber Reports

Dear Customer,

We fully understand why the recent NBC News story on artificial turf may have given you concern. This is why we thought it was important to make it clear to you where we stand on this piece and the questions raised in it:

- **Our product is safe** – We are committed as a company and as an industry to the safety of our fields and the athletes that compete on them – which is why we have encouraged the rigorous work from third-parties that has taken place over decades to confirm there are no significant negative health effects connected to synthetic turf.
- **The science is clear** – Scientific research from academic, federal and state government organizations has failed to find any link between synthetic turf and cancer – as acknowledged by NBC in their report. During the past two decades, there have been more than 60 technical studies and reports that review the health effects of crumb rubber as it pertains to toxicities from inhalation, ingestion and dermal contact, as well as cancer. The notion that this issue has not been studied thoroughly is simply false, and to quote NBC, “there is no research directly linking crumb rubber exposure to cancer.”
- **This is not a new issue** – The reason why the theory from the coach in NBC’s story gained traction is because this is an issue that has come up before – originally in 2008. Similar to what we are seeing now, the media reacted very swiftly to the “connection” between turf and health issues, while making it clear that there was no evidence to support this. As a result, more studies were commissioned, the findings failed to show any link between synthetic turf and health issues and the media attention around it faded.
- **We fully support additional research and transparency** – We have nothing to hide. We are always open to sharing the available research with concerned individuals or organizations, and are fully confident in this body of findings. However, we recognize that some people believe that more research is needed, and we respect this and are willing to continue to support such additional scientific studies.
- **We spoke with the media** – While we felt it was more appropriate for a representative of the entire industry to appear on camera in the segment, a FieldTurf spokesperson gave a lengthy on the record interview in advance of the story running. We answered their questions, shared many of the studies with them and we were quoted in the online version of the story. We think it’s important for you to know that we were happy to publically face the questions raised.

For additional information on the science, you should feel free to read our accompanying support materials. In addition you can visit the Synthetic Turf Council’s website.

Regards,

Darren Gill  
Vice-President – Marketing, Innovation, Customer Service