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# A Generous Gift of a Green and Red Kind:

Academy Sports Turf Installs Tiger XQ45 Synthetic Turf For New Athletic Field at Vista Ridge High School in Colorado Springs



COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., and AUSTIN, Texas (Sept. 28, 2011) — Football, soccer and baseball players at Vista Ridge High School in Colorado Springs are enjoying the benefits of a gracious donation of a green and red kind: a new multi-purpose athletic field installed by Academy Sports Turf with Tiger XQ45 synthetic turf and donated by Falcon Community Builders for Classrooms.

Vista Ridge High School is a 4A school in all sports except football, for which it is a 3A program. Next year, Vista Ridge will be 4A in all sports.

Working with general contractor Arrow J Landscape to install a new field in only eight weeks, Academy Sports Turf of Englewood, Colo., completed the installation of 121,500 square feet of TigerTurf Americas' XQ45 synthetic turf. The new field is configured to include a baseball diamond, a warning track, a football field and soccer field.

By transitioning to synthetic turf, student athletes will benefit from year round play. The field is designed as a multipurpose field that will be used by several teams daily. Games will also be played on the field on a regular basis, both in and out of season.

"Our student athletes now have a high quality facility on which to practice and play. Our goal is to make sure our students can compete in all aspects of their educational experience, and having a complete athletic facility is a part of that mission," commented Bruce Grose, Principal at Vista Ridge High School. "The Vista Ridge High School staff and I are especially thankful for the generous contribution of Falcon Community Builders for Classrooms that made this new field possible. This private donation has ensured that our athletes have facilities that meet the high standards we have set at Vista Ridge."

Explaining the selection of Academy Sports Turf and TigerTurf for the project, Grose explained: "Academy Sports Turf presented the best price and the best services that met the standards requested by our school and district. TigerTurf had a product that everyone really liked. References from around the state all supported TigerTurf."

Academy Sports Turf has been an authorized dealer of TigerTurf Americas since 2006.

Stephen Jewell, sales representative for Academy Sports Turf and estimator for the Vista Ridge High School athletic field project, noted that his company and TigerTurf provided creative solutions that allowed for combined baseball, soccer and football usage.

"The athletic field is designed primarily in a baseball configuration, but it is tufted in a slightly different colored green with a football field outline to provide clear yet subtle differentiation. We also installed a red clay-colored warning track instead of the typical gravel warning track. For baseball play, real bases will be used and when baseball isn't being played, a turf covered cap will go into a sleeve imbedded in the turf and the difference won't even be noticeable," Jewell said.

Bob Aurich, regional sales manager for TigerSports Americas, noted that Tiger XQ45 is based on TenCate's patented XQ technology and TigerTurf's renowned R&D and manufacturing expertise. XQ45 offers a remarkably playable, resilient turf with a more natural appearance and exceptional split resistance.

Aurich added: "This exceptional resistance ensures that Tiger XQ monofilament blades return to an upright position faster and remain that way longer than other monofilaments. Tiger XQ45 is designed for high performance play. It resists matting under excessive playing conditions making it ideal for premium baseball, soccer and football fields. In addition to more natural playability and enhanced durability, Tiger XQ45 has a more natural feel, its ball roll and play attributes are more consistent, and it disperses light reflection to reduce glare."

### **About Vista Ridge High School**

Vista Ridge is home to 1,160 students on the northeast side of Colorado Springs. The school is dedicated to excellence, committed to learning, focused on results and built on relationships. The school's mantra is to COMPETE in all facets of the educational experience.

### **About Academy Sports Turf**

Headquartered in Englewood, Colo., Academy Sports Turf began operating more than 30 years ago with a focus on landscape maintenance. The company's services evolved into general contracting and landscaping for new community parks, streetscapes, running tracks, grading and drainage, stadium fields, synthetic turf, concrete, and related

asphalt paving. Academy Sports Turf's services include erosion control, grading, drainage, concrete, asphalt, bridges, highways, wetlands, and more than 100 running tracks, over 150 game fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, and facilities and sites.

For more information, please visit www.academysportsturf.com.

## **About TigerTurf**

TigerTurf is one of the world's largest synthetic turf manufacturers with operations in the United States, Australia, United Kingdom and New Zealand. The company has a global network of manufacturing facilities serving customers in over 85 countries.

TigerTurf develops, manufactures, and markets turf solutions for soccer, American football, field hockey, lacrosse, tennis, golf and numerous other sport and landscaping surfaces. Many of the company's products have passed the stringent testing requirements of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), International Hockey Fédération (FIH), International Tennis Federation (ITF), International Rugby Board (IRB), World Bowls and other sport governing bodies. As a leader in the industry, TigerTurf products are made with components from its parent company TenCate, the leading manufacturer of synthetic turf components.

TigerTurf Americas, headquartered in Austin, Texas, distributes customized and standard turf solutions throughout North and South America for sports and landscape applications.

For more information, please visit <u>www.tigerturfworld.com</u> or email <u>info@tigerturfworld.com</u>.