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ASTROTURF® STEPS UP TO THE PLATE ONCE AGAIN FOR TORONTO BLUE JAYS

TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA, April 28, 2015 – When the Rogers Centre (home stadium of Major League Baseball’s Toronto Blue Jays) needed a new synthetic turf field, AstroTurf stepped up to the plate with an innovative solution. The new turf consistently performs at a high level and is able to be rolled up, removed, stored, and re-installed to permit other facility uses. AstroTurf is proud to announce the completion of Rogers Centre’s field on February 19, 2015 (in time for the Blue Jays’ home opener on Monday, April 13, 2015). AstroTurf dominates the baseball and conversion markets, and the two harmoniously come together for this unique facility, one of the most difficult and technical installations in North America.

The Rogers Centre installation utilizes 88 removable panels of AstroTurf 3D Xtreme – totaling over 140,000 square feet. This unique solution, known as the AstroHopper® conversion system, allows for the entire field to be rolled up and stored away pursuant to the multipurpose facility’s schedule or needs. Even though each installation of the convertible turf can prove quite complex (due to the required infill encapsulation, precise alignment of panels, and re-seaming of the turf), the AstroHopper conversion system creates a more flexible solution, allowing Rogers Centre to host multiple events. This



AstroTurf installation crew upon completion of Rogers Centre field

versatility could only be achieved through AstroTurf’s enduring experience in the conversion market and its commitment to the AstroTurf RootZone® system. The RootZone is the responsible component that allows for the rolling of panels – the subpile of crimped fibers holds the infill in place and prevents it from spilling out all over the floor when the panels are rolled. The AstroHopper conversion system is proven technology with similar installations at the Dakota Dome, Reliant Stadium, and a prior installation at the Rogers Centre.

This is the second time that the Blue Jays organization has trusted AstroTurf to install an AstroHopper conversion system. Rogers Centre’s Vice President of Building Services, Kelly Keyes, has worked closely with AstroTurf on the last two turf installations.



“Rogers Centre and the Toronto Blue Jays have a strong relationship with AstroTurf, which has allowed for two successful turf installations. Their knowledge of synthetic playing surfaces as well as their understanding of Rogers Centre’s building requirements has and will continue to be a valuable asset to our team,” Keyes said.

AstroTurf has specifically tailored the Blue Jays’ convertible turf to contain an all rubber infill recipe. The field was built to accommodate the team’s desire to provide a comfortable surface for players. However, synthetic turf installation is a dynamic process that requires tuning of the surface. Tuning involves adding sand and/or rubber to achieve the desired feel under foot. The tuning will be done on an ongoing basis as the players and stadium monitor the feel and response of the surface over time. AstroTurf prides itself as the leading innovator in the synthetic turf market, and its strong and growing resume in the baseball world supports its position as the market leader – including installations at: Vanderbilt University, Wichita State University, West Virginia University, Northwestern University, University of Michigan, Liberty University, Tampa Bay Rays, The Ohio State University, Kansas State University, Indiana University, and more.

About AstroTurf

For athletes and sport enthusiasts, AstroTurf has redefined the way the game is played. The company offers advanced, state-of-the-art, multi-sport and specialized synthetic turf systems with proprietary engineered technologies, leveraging the industry’s first vertically integrated manufacturing system. A growing number of high schools, colleges, professional sports teams and municipalities continue to select AstroTurf-branded products for their premium quality, technical superiority, and safety. To learn more, visit www.astroturf.com.

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