

AFL/Cricket Australia Synthetic Turf Product Certification

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



AFL/Cricket Australia Synthetic Turf Product Certification

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INTRODUCTION

In 2007, Federation University Australia (formerly the University of Ballarat) developed criteria for the use of synthetic turf for Australian Football and cricket commissioned by the AFL, Cricket Australia, Sport & Recreation Victoria and JLT Trustees (the insurer to both the AFL and Cricket Australia). An expert panel regularly review the criteria to ensure that the products are safe and comparable with the playing characteristics of natural grass.

The AFL and Cricket Australia (AFL CA) endorse the playing of community level Australian Football and Cricket on a synthetic turf surface that meets the criteria in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018.

This paper explains how AFL CA manages their Synthetic Turf Product Certification System.

The Synthetic Turf Product Certification System has been developed in response to the need for a system to serve and protect AFL CA synthetic field manufacturers whilst giving vital support in meeting the substantial demand for additional fields to meet each sports participation needs in to the future. The purpose of this system is to ensure compliance with AFL CA requirements to safeguard the health of players and officials and to guarantee the integrity of the performance of the field.

The AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate is not intended as a product endorsement beyond one of suitability and acceptability for community football and cricket competitions under AFL CA. The system is administered by the AFL CA Community Facilities Departments in co-operation with the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Technical Committee.

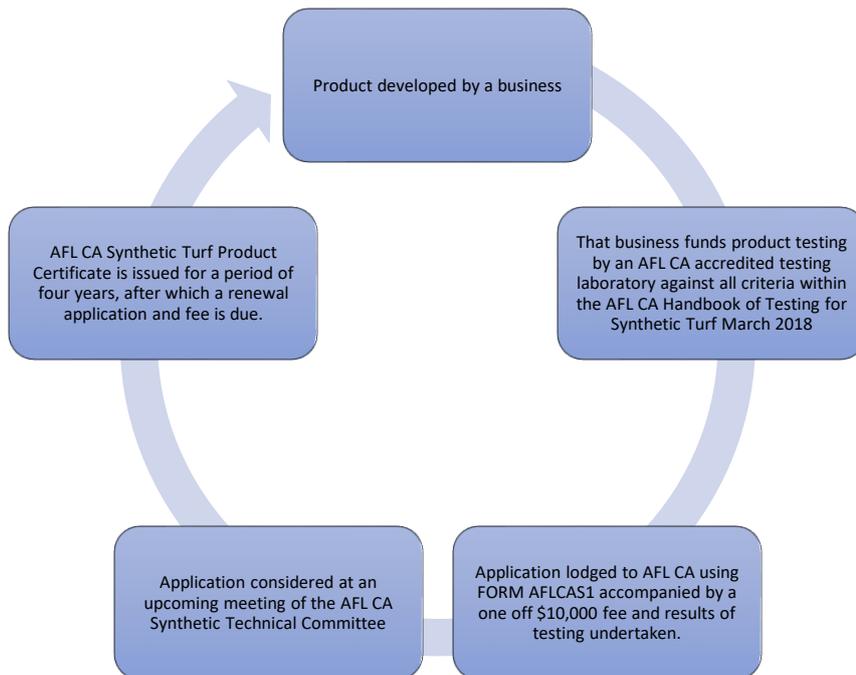
The manufacturer or supplier holding a valid AFL CA Product Certificate may use the below AFL CA Certification Logo (no other AFL or CA logo may be used) and market an AFL CA Synthetic Turf Certified product as “Certified by AFL CA - certificate number....” The certificate number must be quoted. Guidelines on the use of the logo are available from AFL CA.



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CERTIFICATION OF AN AFL CA SYNTHETIC TURF PRODUCT

1.1 APPROVAL OF MATERIALS AND BRANDED PRODUCTS



1.1.1 AFL CA may, on application by any manufacturer or supplier, and, subject to such tests and processes that AFL CA at its discretion require, grant a certificate of product approval (“Synthetic Turf Product Certificate”) in the terms hereinafter described and with such conditions or time limitations as are deemed by AFL CA to be appropriate.

1.1.2 All costs associated with the product approval including but not limited to costs of transport of samples, laboratory tests fees, cost of storage of control samples, cost of processing of applications to AFL CA together with a fee to be set by AFL CA will be met by the manufacturer or supplier.

1.1.3 No Synthetic Turf Product Certificate will be valid for more than four years from the date of issue.

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1.1.4 Manufacturers or suppliers shall inform AFL CA of any proposed change of formulation or of raw materials which may affect the Performance Standard of any certified product and shall supply such information as is deemed necessary by AFL CA or to any test institute(s) nominated by AFL CA for the purpose of ensuring that the product still conforms with AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018.

1.1.5 AFL CA will regularly publish an updated list of all certified synthetic turf products. This list will be available on the AFL CA websites.

1.1.6 All products with an expired certificate will be removed from the list without notice, thirty (30) days after the expiry date of the respective certificate.



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1.2 METHOD OF APPLICATION

1.2.1 Each application shall be on FORM AFLCAS1 (Appendix 1) and shall give full details of the product.

1.2.2 Each application shall be accompanied by two samples of the product to be sent directly to the laboratory - one sample will be used by the laboratory designated for testing in consultation with AFL CA. The other sample will be retained by the laboratory and in the event of subsequent dispute over any matter concerning a product alleged to be covered by an AFL CA Synthetic Product Certificate the second sample will be a reference sample.

1.2.3 AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificates may be renewed if applied for on the FORM AFLCAS2 (Appendix 2) and on payment of the appropriate fee in any case where the applicant certifies that the product is unchanged and where this is confirmed by monitoring during the four previous years. A less than one year old full laboratory test report and a list of facilities using the product in the previous four years shall be attached to the application.



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1.3 APPROVAL PROCEDURE

1.3.1 An AFL CA accredited test institute (“AFL CA Accredited Laboratory”) will assess and test a control sample reporting directly to AFL CA. All tests will be conducted in the laboratory under normal laboratory conditions and at varied temperatures, and on the apparatus specified in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018. Any changes or proposed changes in procedures will be notified to all participating companies and shall only be effective ninety (90) days after the date of issue of such notification by AFL CA.

1.3.2 In the event of any product failing to meet the required standard the applicant will be afforded the opportunity of a hearing and of a further test. All costs will be discharged by the applicant.

1.3.3 From time to time, AFL CA may require the applicant to supply samples from facilities under construction for the purpose of monitoring the continuing conformity with the approvals granted.

1.3.4 List of AFL CA Accredited Laboratories for synthetic turf product testing:

The following laboratories have been accredited by AFL CA for the purposes of testing and certifying conformity with the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018.

Acousto-Scan	Labosport
<p>Acousto-Scan Pty Ltd</p> <p>44 / 59 Halstead Street, South Hurstville, NSW, 2221, Australia</p> <p>Tel 02 8385 4872</p> <p>Mo +61 (0) 415 423 334</p> <p>Fax +61 (0) 2 8006 4016</p> <p>email: admin@acoustoscan.com.au</p>	<p>Labosport Australasia</p> <p>52 Raby Esplanade, Ormiston, 4160, Queensland, Australia</p> <p>Tel : +61 (0) 7 32862237</p> <p>Mobile: +61 (0) 406558120</p> <p>Email: keith.mcauliffe@labosport.com</p>

AFL CA may consider applications from other laboratories to be accredited for this purpose in future years at their discretion.



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1.4 CONTROL AND MONITORING PROCEDURE

1.4.1 Each item approved would be allocated a unique approval number (“AFL CA Certification Number”), which should be used in all materials relating to that item and to that item only.

1.4.2 AFL CA will monitor testing results of fields to ensure that any Product Certificate issued for the system used is consistent with the in situ test results.

1.4.3 Any test results submitted to AFL CA in support of any field certification will be compared with AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate issued to ensure continuing conformity with that product certification. If the test results indicate that the particular facility does not comply with the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018, AFL CA may indicate the action to be taken to bring the facility into compliance or request the testing laboratory and/or the holder of the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate to propose remedial action.

1.4.4 In any case where the monitoring procedures indicate that a product no longer matches the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate, description and/or the properties, the holder of the Product Certificate will be notified and will have the opportunity within thirty (30) days of the date of the notification to show reason why the certificate should not be withdrawn by AFL CA.

1.4.5 Any holder of a AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate may be required to supply samples for the purpose of testing at no cost to AFL CA.



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1.5 ROLE OF AFL CA

1.5.1 The purpose of the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certification system is to ensure compliance with AFL CA requirements to safeguard the health of players and officials and to guarantee the integrity of the performance of the field. The AFL CA Product Certificate is not intended as a product endorsement beyond one of suitability and acceptability for community football and cricket competitions under AFL CA.

1.5.2 AFL CA accepts no responsibility or liability for any damage or injuries caused or alleged to have been caused in any manner whatsoever by any product for which an AFL CA Product Certificate has been issued.

1.6 FEES

1.6.1 The cost of AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate has been set at \$10,000 for each product.

1.6.2 If a renewal is applied for by the manufacturer, a fee of \$2,000 for the renewal of an AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate will be charged every four years.



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APPENDIX 1 FORM: AFLCAS1

AFL CA SYNTHETIC TURF PRODUCT CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

This form must be sent to:

Executive Officer, AFL CA Synthetic Turf Program

GPO Box 4337

Melbourne Victoria 3001

We hereby apply for an AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate for

Product trade name*:	
Company name*:	

* as it should appear on the Certificate

Company address:	
City:	
Postcode:	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Website:	

AFL CA Accredited Testing Laboratory:			
Test result (circle):	Positive	Negative	Note: The AFL CA Accredited Laboratory should provide a complete report showing all the measurements in the format approved by AFL CA.
Test report enclosed: (circle)	Yes	No	

Date:	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	



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UNDERTAKING

* Tick as appropriate.

- * 1. I hereby apply for an AFL CA Synthetic Product Certificate under the specifications in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018 Testing Specifications for the product described herein.
- * 2. I certify that we own the sole right to the Trade Name of the product named above.
- * 3. I have read the conditions attached to the AFL CA Certification System Procedures and accept those conditions.
- * 4. I acknowledge that no legal or other responsibility rests with AFL CA for all and any claims in relation to the product described herein and I agree to hold the AFL CA harmless in the event any claims are made by third parties against the AFL CA on the basis of the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate or the use of the product to which it relates.
- * 5. I undertake to immediately inform AFL CA of any changes to formulation or to raw materials or of any factor which may influence the performance specifications of this product.
- * 6. I acknowledge the right of AFL CA to withdraw, suspend or limit the scope of any Product Certificate on technical or safety grounds pending investigation of the product covered by that certificate.
- * 7. I recognise the absolute right of the AFL CA to modify, alter or change the specifications in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018 Testing Specifications and undertake, on being informed by AFL CA of any modification, alteration or change to such specifications affecting the product described herein, to alter, modify or change the product to comply with any such alteration or change.
- * 8. I understand that this product will be tested, at the discretion of the AFL CA, by at least one AFL CA Accredited Laboratory who shall report directly to AFL CA.
- * 9. I will co-operate fully with any designated AFL CA Accredited Laboratory and provide any information necessary for proper evaluation of this product, including but not limited to information on raw materials used and the sources of those raw materials.



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- * 10. I understand that the AFL CA Accredited Laboratory will retain samples and that these representative samples will be reference samples for all comparative assessment of this product.
- * 11. I understand that my fees are not refundable once the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate has been issued and that payment in full must accompany my application.
- * 12. I acknowledge that in the event of my failure to comply with the undertakings and acknowledgements contained herein, the AFL CA may unconditionally withdraw the Product Certificate.
- * 13. I accept that all disputes in relation to the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate shall be resolved by arbitration in Australia in accordance with the laws of Australia.

Date:	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	



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FORM: AFLCAS1 NOTES

1. For the purpose of full technical evaluation, applicants shall provide, at their cost, all additional product and/or information requested by AFL CA or any person or body designated by AFL CA.
2. Applications must be accompanied by certification fees as set out hereunder*:
 - a) The cost of certification for a field surfacing product has been set at \$10,000 for each product.
 - b) If a renewal is applied for by the manufacturer, a fee of \$2,000 for the renewal of a Product Certificate will be charged every four years.
3. No AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate shall have a validity of more than four years from the date of granting of the approval. Certificates may be limited to shorter periods.

4. Tests and Test Procedures

An AFL CA Accredited Laboratory will assess and test a control sample reporting directly to AFL CA. All tests will be conducted in the laboratory under normal laboratory conditions and on the apparatus specified in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018 Testing Specifications. Any changes or proposed changes in procedures will be notified to all participating companies and shall only be effective ninety (90) days after the date of issue of such notification by AFL CA.

An AFL CA standard report form should be used to ensure that all relevant measurements are made and data collected.

In the event of any product failing to meet the required standard the applicant will be afforded the opportunity of a hearing and of a further test. All costs will be discharged by the applicant.

From time to time, AFL CA may require the applicant to supply samples from facilities under construction for the purpose of monitoring the continuing conformity with the approvals granted.

5. Appeals

In the case of a refusal to grant certification or withdrawal or suspension of a current certificate, the applicant shall be entitled to appeal to the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee who may appoint an examiner or panel of examiners to report to the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee on the matter. The decision of the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee shall be final.



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APPENDIX 2 FORM: AFLCAS2

AFL CA Synthetic Turf PRODUCT CERTIFICATION RENEWAL APPLICATION

This form must be sent to:

Executive Officer, AFL CA Synthetic Turf Program

GPO Box 4337

Melbourne Victoria 3001

We hereby apply for the renewal of the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate for

Product trade name*:	
Company name*:	

* as it should appear on the Certificate

Company address:	
City:	
Postcode:	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Website:	

AFL CA Certification Number			
Valid Test Report (Less than 1 year old)	Positive	Negative	Note: The AFL CA Accredited Laboratory should provide a complete report showing all the measurements in the format approved by AFL CA.
Test report enclosed: (circle)	Yes	No	
List of facilities using the above certified product in the previous four years:			



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Declaration:	I certify that the specification of the Product certified by the AFL CA under the above number has remained unchanged from the date of the original application for certification.
Date:	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	



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UNDERTAKING

* Tick as appropriate.

- * 1. I hereby apply for the renewal of an AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate under the specifications in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018 Testing Specifications for the product described herein.

- * 2. I certify that we own the sole right to the Trade Name of the product named above.

- * 3. I have read the conditions attached to the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Certification System Procedures and accept those conditions.

- * 4. I acknowledge that no legal or other responsibility rests with AFL CA for all and any claims in relation to the product described herein and I agree to hold the AFL CA harmless in the event any claims are made by third parties against the AFL CA on the basis of the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate or the use of the product to which it relates.

- * 5. I undertake to immediately inform AFL CA of any changes to formulation or to raw materials or of any factor which may influence the performance specifications of this product.

- * 6. I acknowledge the right of AFL CA to withdraw, suspend or limit the scope of any AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate on technical or safety grounds pending investigation of the product covered by that certificate.

- * 7. I recognise the absolute right of the AFL CA to modify, alter or change the specifications in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018 Testing Specifications and undertake, on being informed by AFL CA of any modification, alteration or change to such specifications affecting the product described herein, to alter, modify or change the product to comply with any such alteration or change.

- * 8. I understand that this product will be tested, at the discretion of the AFL CA, by one or more AFL CA Accredited Laboratory who shall report directly to AFL CA.



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- * 9. I will co-operate fully with any designated AFL CA Accredited Laboratory and provide any information necessary for proper evaluation of this product, including but not limited to information on raw materials used and the sources of those raw materials.
- * 10. I understand that the AFL CA Accredited Laboratory will retain samples and that these representative samples will be reference samples for all comparative assessment of this product.
- * 11. I understand that my fees are not refundable once the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate has been issued and that payment in full must accompany my application.
- * 12. I acknowledge that in the event of my failure to comply with the undertakings and acknowledgements contained herein, the AFL CA may unconditionally withdraw the Product Certificate.
- * 13. I accept that all disputes in relation to the AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate shall be resolved by arbitration in Australia in accordance with the laws of Australia.

Date:	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	



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FORM: AFLCAS2 NOTES

1. For the purpose of full technical evaluation, applicants shall provide at their cost all additional product and/or information requested by AFL CA or any person or body designated by AFL CA.
2. Applications must be accompanied by a renewal fee of \$2,000.
3. No AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Certificate shall have a validity of more than four years from the date of granting of the approval. Certificates may be limited to shorter periods.
4. Tests and Test Procedures

An AFL CA Accredited Laboratory will assess and test a control sample reporting directly to AFL CA. All tests will be conducted in the laboratory under normal laboratory conditions and on the apparatus specified in the AFL CA Handbook of Testing for Synthetic Turf March 2018 Testing Specifications. Any changes or proposed changes in procedures will be notified to all participating companies and shall only be effective ninety (90) days after the date of issue of such notification by AFL CA.

An AFL CA standard report form should be used to ensure that all relevant measurements are made and data collected.

In the event of any product failing to meet the required standard the applicant will be afforded the opportunity of a hearing and of a further test. All costs will be discharged by the applicant.

From time to time, AFL CA may require the applicant to supply samples from facilities under construction for the purpose of monitoring the continuing conformity with the approvals granted.

5. Appeals In the case of a refusal to grant certification or withdrawal or suspension of a current certificate, the applicant shall be entitled to appeal to the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee who may appoint an examiner or panel of examiners to report to the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee on the matter. The decision of the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee shall be final.



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APPENDIX 3

SYNTHETIC SURFACE REGISTERED INSTALLER APPLICATION (FORM AFLCAS3)

AFL CA will maintain a register of suitably qualified installers on their websites in order to give venue owners additional information when developing their plans and processes for the creation of a synthetic sports field.

AFL CA will only consider such registration if the application is made on this form and if the applicant is deemed by a meeting of the AFL CA Synthetic Technical Committee to satisfy the criteria listed in the application form to an acceptable level.

Company name:	
Company address:	
City:	
Postcode:	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Website:	

1. Please outline your experience in sports field installation where is can be relevant to AFL CA Synthetic Turf Product Installation.	
2. Please outline details of any formal contract / relationship that exists between your company and a company that has a certified AFL CA synthetic turf product.	



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<p>3. Please provide evidence of financial stability of installer to undertake projects of similar scope and budget in previous years and stability to do so in future years.</p>	
<p>4. Please list the qualifications of your current staff that will lead the delivery of synthetic turf product installations.</p>	
<p>5. Referee A Please outline contact details for this person along with details of the relevant project</p>	
<p>6. Referee B Please outline contact details for this person along with details of the relevant project</p>	

Date:	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	

