



European Synthetic
Turf Organisation

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YOUR GUIDE TO ALL THE DEVELOPMENTS IN SYNTHETIC TURF

**THE RIO 2016 OLYMPIC
HOCKEY SYNTHETIC PITCH**

**SYNTHETIC TRAINING PITCH
AT BAYER 04 LEVERKUSEN**

PLUS:

- » A SYNTHETIC SOLUTION FOR POSTPONEMENTS
- » ACT GLOBAL APPOINTED OFFICIAL FIH SUPPLIER FOR HOCKEY TURF

...AND MUCH MORE



SYNTHETIC TRAINING PITCH AT BAYER 04 LEVERKUSEN

In recent years, it has become indispensable for professional football clubs to be equipped with synthetic turf pitches within their training centre. It is now part of the whole package of a fully equipped training ground for all European professional football clubs.

For example, during the winter months, even if snow has just been cleared off the synthetic pitch, training conditions would be very similar in terms of playing surface than during any other months of the year. The squad would not anymore be forced to start the year indoors after the winter break, it would now have the choice to also train outdoors.

Bayer 04 Leverkusen is no exception to this general consensus, the year 2010 saw them installing a new synthetic turf at their training centre. This investment was part of a wave of installations of synthetic pitches at big German football clubs' training centres. Indeed, clubs such as Bayern Munich and Schalke 04 also opted during this period to get such pitch incorporated to their state-of-the-art training facilities.

Another good reason for installing this synthetic turf in the case of Bayer Leverkusen is to be able to get prepared to play on such surface in competition matches. Indeed, Bayer Leverkusen is used to playing in European competitions. This infers that there is high probability of having to play away games in Russia or Ukraine for example where a lot of teams play their home games on synthetic turf. In order to avoid being surprised by playing on that surface, Bayer Leverkusen can therefore spend their days prior to the game training on their synthetic pitch to be well prepared for a game on this surface.

Reason behind Bayer Leverkusen's decision to get a training synthetic field was that it now enables the professional squad to train outside all year round.

THE RIO 2016 OLYMPIC HOCKEY SYNTHETIC PITCH

The hockey venue for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games was unveiled last 20th of November by the Rio de Janeiro City Government. This event highlight was the sight of a magnificent hockey synthetic turf pitch displaying symbolic colours for Brazil

The Olympic Hockey Centre is located in the Deodoro Olympic Park of Rio and will be the second largest concentration of competition venues during the Olympics. The venue has three pitches made of synthetic grass – two match pitches of 91.4m x 55m and one warm-up field of 45.7m x 55m. The venue was built for the 2007 Pan-American Games and is being adapted to meet Olympic standards.

When combined, the blue pitch, green border, white lines and yellow ball make up the colours of the host nation's flag. The main pitch of the complex will have 8,000 seats during the Games, with 2,500 remaining afterwards as heritage.

After the Games, the hockey venue will host top-level teams, including the national team, as well as social projects. "The structure we have today, with the floodlights and the warm-up pitch, is how it will be after the Games. It will be a legacy for the sport and the city," said Luciano Elias, the Rio 2016 hockey venue manager.

"This is the best surface that exists for playing hockey, the most modern in the world," said Claudio Rocha, the coach of Brazil's hockey men's team, one of 11 sides already confirmed for the 12-team Olympic tournament. "It's very important for our sport in Brazil to have a facility of this level," said Brazil's goalkeeper Thiago Bonfim, who helped the team confirm their place at Rio 2016 by finishing in the top six at this year's Pan-American Games.

"Today hockey may not be such a well-known sport in Brazil, but after the Rio 2016 Games, this Olympic Centre can be a turning point for the sport in the country," said Rio mayor Eduardo Paes.





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ORGANIC SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLATION FOR BRITISH EMBASSY SCHOOL

Last month saw the installation of the first organic synthetic turf pitch for British Embassy School, St. Catherine's in Athens. The new pitch features a custom Bonar Yarns fibre, which is exclusive to Lano Sports – the Belgian turf manufacturer who created and installed the surface.

The Profoot MXSi TLT Bionomic system is one of the latest and more unique offerings from Lano Sports, which features a custom MN Slide™ fibre from Bonar Yarns; as well as an organic infill which is specifically designed to set new standards within football.

The system provides clubs with a pitch which has increased resilience and a softer touch; whilst improving ball roll and providing a surface suitable for more comfortable sliding tackles.

The exclusive MN Slide™ provides two fibres shapes within one yarn – the Diamond and the Double C Spiral Shape – which are strongly twisted together to provide the final system with great tuft lock. As a result, the final system can reach 200.000 Lisport cycles before any effects are seen (The FIFA requirement is 20.000 cycles), further improving the life expectancy of the pitch. The final result showcases a system with unmatched stability, perfect for the new-generation of football turf.

The Bionomic component of the final system provides the pitch with an alternative to traditional infill choices, opting for organic cork granules. Cork is well-known for the following characteristics:

- **Buoyancy**
- **Compressibility**
- **Resiliency**
- **Frictional quality**
- **Low Thermal Conductivity**
- **Stability**

The custom and exclusive dual-fibre system offers an ideal balance of player comfort and resilience, with durability testing exceeding FIFA's standards by more than ten times – allowing the system to greatly exceed the needs of the school requirements enhancing utilisation for various school, and possible community, activities.





A REAL "JEWEL" CLASSIFIED FIFA 2 STAR FOR US MILLERY-VOURLES

The synthetic football pitch in Vourles, near Lyon in France was back then, in 2012, expected as the messiah by the user club, US Millery-Vourles. Some players from the senior team were even reluctant to go for another season without having that new pitch.

It was officially opened on a Friday evening in the presence of many elected officials, local personalities and officials from the regional Football League.

A real "jewel" classified FIFA 2 Star and designed to host international games, even though US Millery-Vourles plays at regional level.

Alternately Serge Fages (Mayor of Vourles), Christophe Guilloteau (Deputy of General Counsel) and Jean-Luc Colignon (club co-president) have succeeded each other for traditional speeches at the inaugural ceremony, each recalling the promise by elected officials to provide a great pitch, and valuing the new tool to serve for of four hundred and fifty club licensees.

It was then time to cut the ribbon and give the kick off of the inaugural match which opposed the U15 teams, then people moved on to the festivities.

The synthetic pitch, which still serves today, has a surface of 8775 m². It is equipped with a drainage system, combined to a 25mm shock pad, on which are planted synthetic fibres of 42 mm. The pitch is filled with 10 kg of sand and 9 kg of rubber infill from recycled tires. The construction works lasted 2 months.



WORLD RUGBY PREFERRED SYNTHETIC PITCH IN BRISTOL

South Gloucestershire and Stroud College, located in Bristol, has the particularity of having invested recently into installing a full-size floodlit synthetic turf rugby pitch in its campus.

This field has achieved the status of World Rugby certified rugby pitch, meaning a high-performing, consistent and all-weather playing surface for rugby.

This 9,000 m² pitch enables extensive use for the practice of rugby, a sport which often heavily damages natural grass pitches due to the repeated stomping resulting from scrummage for example. This tends to demonstrate the capacity for resistance and durability of such surface which can undergo regular rugby matches and practice for years, without any maintenance cost, only a sunk cost for its installation.

The college will be able to benefit from that pitch to attract many students passionate for rugby or aspiring to become professional in that sport. It will be used by some of the most talented young rugby players in the UK. The pitch also proved worthy as it hosted Georgia's national rugby team training sessions during their stay in the South Gloucestershire and Stroud campus for last year's rugby world cup.

This synthetic rugby pitch therefore happens to be perfectly suitable for elite but also for community level play, which is important.

PROGAME 7006 XC + EDEL GRASS TRIPLE T FOR HOCKEY

TROCELLEN

During 2015 four clubs in Europe and one in the United States decided to use, for their water based hockey pitches, the Triple T waterbased system from Edel Grass (FIH preferred supplier), installed on the 7006 XC ProGame shock pad. This was the perfect solution to meet the stringent FIH global requirements.

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PROGAME
by TROCELLEN

The Triple-T System is a revolutionary waterbased pitch for the hockey market. With more than a million monofilaments per m² and a special sub base, the system delivers a perfect playing surface for top hockey. Together with ProGame Artificial Turf Shock Pad system it is today one of the best solutions for water based systems, which can be installed very quickly, no matter the weather conditions.

Pitches were installed in Scotland (Glasgow High School); in Holland (Sportpark IJburg – Amsterdam and Sportpark VMHC Pollux - Vlaardingen) and in Luxembourg (Boy Konen). The latter installed in October 2015, with the London Olympic colours, totaling 6.292 m², which will host many Luxembourg international fixtures.

The same system was also installed in US, at the University of Pacific (California), one of the main pitches done in 2015.





A SYNTHETIC SOLUTION FOR POSTPONEMENTS

BONAR YARNS

After a mild start to Winter, the weather has started to take its toll on football matches across the country. 18 professional matches were called off on Boxing day, with many more semi-professional and amateur games postponed across the UK. The disruption continued into the New Year, with some clubs still struggling to recover from one of the wettest Christmas periods on record.

Shocking images of the floods affecting Carlisle's Brunton Park and grounds across Yorkshire and Lancashire showed the devastation caused and the challenge facing teams in recovering. Missing a game can put a strain on smaller club's revenue; traditionally the boxing day and New Year's Day matches are well attended – the same cannot be said for the re-arranged matches on a cold mid-week when fans are back to work and back at school.

Match-day takings in club shops and bars are a significant revenue stream for clubs at Christmas, with no game there is no footfall, further reducing the club's ability to make money. The trend being that fans are willing to have a drink after the game on a Saturday but not so much during the week when they have to travel home and have work commitments the next day.

A case in point was Braintree Town, who had four successive fixtures postponed - three at home - and five out of the last six matches, which can put a huge strain on resources. The fixtures pile up is also a concern to the club, with several matches over a short space of time tough on semi-professional players with other jobs and responsibilities.

One solution for these clubs is a switch to synthetic. While 3G pitches are only permitted in the top flight for FA Cup matches, the National League changed its position so that they can be used for league games from 2015-16. An increasing number of teams in England and Scotland have moved to synthetic, significantly improving the outlook for some who struggled with the extreme weather conditions.

In addition, the pitch and club facilities can be used by the community around the clock, bringing in much needed revenue streams. 3G provides an excellent playing surface, encouraging good technical football which is essential for the development of the grass-roots game.

Keynsham Town, who play in the Western League division one, made the switch to synthetic in 2011, securing funding from the Football Foundation, who work with the FA and Premier League, with community involvement guaranteed as part of the agreement.

Clubs can apply for funding from £10,000 up to £500,000 for projects aimed at improving facilities in grassroots football; these pitches must be available for use seven days a week for a minimum of 85 hours by local teams and groups.

Keynsham Club Secretary Julian French recently told the Bath Chronicle that "Day in and day out, it can be used for hire externally, and also for training twice a week. It also means there's no worry about weather and you can turn up on a Saturday with the game guaranteed to be on. We're an FA Community Charter

Standard club, which is the highest level you can achieve, and that's helped by having these facilities. It's used by juniors from the age of five, and fosters good will within the town."

Stefan Diderich of Bonar Yarns, the manufacturers behind the high quality yarn used in the Queen of the South Palmerston Park pitch, said "Synthetic turf is becoming an increasingly viable and popular option for both professional and semi-professional football teams, not only as a good sporting decision but one that makes clear business sense. Turf protects clubs from cancelled games or postponements whilst providing a facility, which can be used extensively year-round. Not only can a 3G pitch encourage goodwill from the local community, but provide an income which can be invested back into the club."

A successful Football Association enterprise to invest £260 million in 600 new all-weather pitches has seen an increase in participation by the FA, bringing the number of pitches into line with some European counterparts. This much needed investment in grassroots providing a great opportunity for the next generation of men and women players.



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ACT GLOBAL APPOINTED OFFICIAL FIH SUPPLIER FOR HOCKEY TURF

ACT GLOBAL

The International Hockey Federation has today announced its appointment of Official FIH Suppliers, who have demonstrated commitment to provide top level hockey surfaces around the world.

Act Global is among seven companies to be recognized in the flagship program. To be appointed, Act Global demonstrated its commitment to working with the FIH to grow the game of hockey and providing high-quality pitches suitable for international, national, club and development hockey.

“Act Global is dedicated to collaborating with the FIH to set the industry standards and build the fields needed to grow and sustain the game,” said Chris Clapham, co-owner of Act Global. “We ensure quality in all our synthetic turf systems to maximize performance and safety for players.”

Act Global engineers several high performing sand-dressed and water-based hockey turf systems, certified for National and Global level play. Using highly resilient yarns, and a short, dense pile height, Xtreme Turf Hockey provides a flat, sturdy surface for optimal high speed of play. Xtreme Turf has been Certified in hockey pitches around the world, with a recent Global Category for two pitches at Millfield School in England.

The FIH Supplier initiative is part of the FIH Quality Programme for Hockey Turf which is aimed at ensuring good quality hockey fields are built for all levels of play. This internationally recognised programme provides consistent and dependable industry standards for the performance, construction and durability of hockey turf installations worldwide. As a result it will help inspire more people to play hockey, promote player welfare and protect the investment of those funding hockey facilities.

WHY YOU SHOULD START THINKING ABOUT INVESTING IN TURF

2015 saw the trend of calling time on natural turf and with the Rugby Football Union Council having just approved a £57m strategy to invest in synthetic turf pitches, it looks like 2016 will be no different.

BONAR YARNS



This new strategy will see 100 new synthetic turf, floodlit pitches installed across the UK over a four year period – which is a hugely significant capital investment. The strategy will fund two types of pitches in various locations across the UK to ensure maximum access and increase rugby participation:

60 pitches on rugby club playing grounds/sites which are to be used by the host club and other local clubs to maximise training and increase matches – will also reduce the risk of cancelled/postponed games due to weather. 40 pitches on community sites with a guaranteed number of hours set aside for specific rugby use.

This, however, comes as no surprise given the recent influx in both community and elite level clubs opting for a 3G surface. Many opting to install turf as it has the ability to provide numerous financial and environmental benefits – not to mention increased player comfort, confidence, safety and reduced injury risk.

Another major driver for installing artificial pitches is to sustain and grow participation in the game against a backdrop of increasing pressure on natural turf pitches, changing player expectations, competition from other sports investing in synthetic turf.

More importantly the recent bad weather and flooding, alongside constantly changing weather conditions, has caused nothing but havoc for natural grass surfaces across the UK, with irreversible damage. Installing synthetic turf could mean this no longer becomes a concern for local communities or clubs.

Over the past four years, RFU data shows that wetter winters are having a serious impact on the rugby season, resulting in more games and training sessions being cancelled. In February 2014, 1,766 adult games were lost over two weekends due to bad weather and over 600 natural turf pitches remained unplayable for three weeks afterwards.

Artificial turf can provide reassurance that muddy, water logged fields are a thing of the past – no more cancelled games or unplayable surfaces, just increased confidence in the surface's playing characteristics. Synthetic turf will not only reduce this risk but it will also help enhance current players capabilities, whilst highlighting investment in the future of youth teams across the nation.

Following the Rugby World Cup 2015, there was an upsurge in interest in the sport from aspiring coaches, referees and young players. With the substantial investment from the RFU, alongside the publicity of the World Cup as well as the Six Nations, participation and interest in rugby will soar. We need to ensure that clubs and communities have playing surfaces which can withstand that level of use and synthetic turf is the way forward.

*The project will get underway with an initial 6 of the 60 rugby club pitches aiming to be operational by September 2016.



INAUGURATION OF THE RENOVATED GREGORY COUPET STADIUM TODAY IN LYON

Today, March 16, will be held at 3pm the inauguration of the renovated stadium Grégory Coupet in Lyon, which now has a new synthetic turf. The stadium has been named after legendary goal keeper of Olympique Lyonnais who retired from football in 2010 (on the above photo).

As part of the Euro 2016 organisation in France, an allocation of € 2 million is given to each host city by UEFA, which is the case of the city of Lyon. In this context and using a part of these funds, the Grégory Coupet Stadium has been greatly renovated. These adjustments mainly relate to the installation of a new synthetic turf, but also the renewal of many facilities such as locker rooms, the installation of new goals and several protection nets behind the goals, the presence of entry gates and more.

The costs of work, mostly paid by UEFA, is estimated at 500,000 euros. This will benefit to the teams of Lyon Croix-Rousse Football (368 licensed footballers) and the youth attending school sports sections of football, who will now enjoy the new installations of high quality.



REPLACEMENT OF A 13-YEAR OLD SYNTHETIC PITCH IN BAVARIA

Based in the Kirchheim district of Munich, SV Heimstetten is a football club that now has a synthetic turf field since September 2014.

Founded in 1967 and playing in the Bayernliga Süd, fifth division of German football, SV Heimstetten took the synthetic surface at a cost of 420 000 euros but will for now on require maintenance costs near to zero.

The footballers can now train in any weather. "To summarize, it was necessary that the high performance level of our teams had also to be reflected in the infrastructure," said SVH Board Ewald Matejka. The previous 13-year old synthetic pitch was run down.

With 14 youth teams and the seniors team of two different clubs: SVH and the Spvgg.Kickers, both their daily training schedules and games had run down the 13-year old synthetic turf. "The previous pitch has done a great service," says Christian Danner from SpVgg, although it was, however, responsible for numerous injuries. "Now we have the newest of the new, the Women's World Cup in Canada will be held on this pad" said Matejka back then, proud. The new synthetic turf is also a marketing factor. Finally, the advertising film of Mario Gotze in his new shoes had been filmed here. The name of the sports park and the village of Kirchheim has now reached out far beyond the borders. "An investment that is thus double worthwhile," affirmed Mayor Maximilian Böttl.

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NEW POLYTAN HOCKEY TURF AT BISHAM ABBEY NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE

POLYTAN GMBH

Optimal training conditions for Great Britain's hockey teams Polytan will be in on the action when the world's top athletes pit their strengths against each other at international level this summer.

The turf used for the hockey matches in Rio comes from Polytan, as was the case in London and Beijing too. Blue and green versions of the new Poligras Platinum CoolPlus synthetic turf system are being installed. The very same hockey pitch has also been available to the British hockey squads at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre since last October. The professional athletes are thus ideally equipped to prepare for the Summer Games.

The pitch comes in an eye-catching colour combination: a blue playing field with a light green border. The blue part of the playing field in particular is a hit in terms both of its design attributes and its appearance: ever since the blue pitch made its debut in London in 2012, the enhanced contrast between the dark playing surface and the light hockey ball has been appreciated by players, spectators and television audiences. The blue pitch in England's capital city had a playing field with a pink border and was likewise a synthetic hockey turf system from Polytan.

Polytan has refined this synthetic turf system in terms of both colour and technology for the upcoming hockey tournaments in Rio: a higher stitch density and special texturing technology mean that even more accurate moves are possible when playing on Poligras Platinum CoolPlus.

Sally Munday, Chief Executive of England Hockey: "We have enjoyed a fantastic relationship with Polytan for a number of years and once again they have done a first-class job of installing the new pitch at Bisham Abbey. The quality of their product is outstanding, the installation work went without a hitch and the feedback from the players has been excellent."

Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre is one of three national centres of excellence in England and was set up by Sport England, the central sports organisation. The venue enables British national hockey teams to make professional preparations for forthcoming competitions, as well as elite athletes in other disciplines.

Kevin Burton, Head of National Centres, Sport England: "In order to ensure our Great British hockey players had the best possible chance of success in future sports competitions, Sport England took the decision to replace the hockey surface at Bisham Abbey with the exact same surface that will be installed for the international sports competition in summer 2016. The process from our first contact with Polytan, working through the delivery of the project, to the handover was incredibly efficient and caused minimal disruption to ongoing operations. It helped enormously only having to deal with one company, as Polytan not only manufacture the carpet, but undertook the installation as well. The feedback from our hockey players and travelling international camps has been overwhelming. We are delighted with the surface as well as Polytan's first-class service."



THE EUROPEAN HOCKEY FEDERATION (EHF) AND POLYTAN™ ANNOUNCE A 2 YEAR PARTNERSHIP

POLYTAN GMBH

The European Hockey Federation and Polytan™ announced today a 2 year partnership that sees Polytan secured as "Preferred EHF Hockey Turf Partner" with exclusivity in the business category.

Through this partnership Polytan will support the EHF and promote its Poligras Hockey Turf Products in the "EHF Territory".

Speaking about the announcement the EHF President Marijke Fleuren said, "As part of the Hockey Revolution, we have embraced the 5 Major Initiatives of the International Hockey Federation and one of these is a commitment to securing Commercial Partners that share our vision. We believe that in Polytan™ we have found such a partner. It is indeed an exciting moment for the EHF to be moving forward with Polytan™ and we look forward to innovating together. We are delighted to welcome Polytan™ to the European Hockey family, and look forward to a successful collaboration."

"As a leading manufacturer of synthetic turf systems, we have carved out a leading position in world hockey under the Poligras brand. We are therefore very excited about the far-reaching collaboration with the EHF, which extends far beyond the usual sponsorship. As the innovation partner, we want to drive hockey sport forward together with the EHF and develop both new hockey pitches and new forms of the game", said Markus Deimling, Managing Director of Polytan, commenting on the exclusive partnership with the EHF.





SYNTHETIC TURF ACHIEVEMENT FOR ADO DEN HAAG

Sometimes, the busy schedules of professional football club stadiums make it difficult for one to undertake some renovation works within the venue during the season. However, excellent collaboration between the different stakeholders of a stadium may overcome such issues.

For example in the case of ADO Den Haag (Eredivisie, Dutch first division) and their home ground the Kyocera stadium, a solution was found to install a synthetic turf with record speed in the middle of the season. Indeed, optimal coordination between the city of The Hague, the turf manufacturers and installers as well as the club, ADO Den Haag, enabled the process of manufacturing and laying of the new surface in the stadium to be done in only two weeks. Also, stretching a cover above the field made it possible to work at night and in bad weather.

As a result, the synthetic grass system was approved by the Royal Dutch Football Association, KNVB, on Monday 21 October 2013 and delivered two days later. Five days later, ADO Den Haag were able to play at home against FC Twente on a brand new, nice and smooth, football pitch with a few training sessions taking place on it beforehand. After training, both team and coach said they were very happy with the new pitch.

Hugo de Vries, business development director behind the project: "This is really a joint achievement of the highest quality. It has also turned out to be a top-quality pitch, thanks to the nature of the substructure, the shock-absorbing layer on top, especially designed for sports, and the high-quality artificial grass fibres, which has proved its worth in professional football worldwide."

A TEMPORARY SYNTHETIC PITCH FOR POPULAR FOOTBALL EVENT IN ROME

The Nike Hypervenom knock out event took place in Rome at the Ponte della Musica Amando Trovajoli. This event was a 3-side football tournament with over 400 young footballers from Rome competing to become the best young technical players of the city.

Motivation was at its peak for the local youth, especially under the supervision of Italian International Mattia Destro, invited by his sponsor for the event. This competition is part of an ongoing series of 3-side tournaments for youth taking place in different cities in Europe, organised by the sportswear brand.

For this Rome stage, the project included the construction of a temporary synthetic turf surface of 339m2 for the tournament games to be played on. The temporary surface consisted of a 40 mm synthetic fibre of great resilience, on top of one of the latest shock pads available in the market. This combination provided the players safety, comfort and excellent playing characteristics.

Once the tournament was over, the synthetic turf surface was removed but nonetheless ready for re-use for another occasion such as football demonstration events in city centres or for the next Nike Hypervenom event.

A special feature of this playing surface which retained lots of attention was the effect created by the surface infill. Indeed, an orange-coloured infill was developed specially for the event to create a perfect match with the orange-coloured football boots provided to the players for the tournament.



INVESTING IN LOCAL TALENT WITH A UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP



BONAR YARNS

As one of Dundee's eldest and well established companies, Bonar Yarns has been a prominent figure within the local community since it was founded in 1914.

With Dundee now working towards cultivating its image to become the City of Design and Culture, the local area is thriving from new business and enthusiastic individuals who want to study at the well-known universities.

Over the last six months to a year Bonar Yarns has been working with local University, Abertay to provide Marketing and Business students with live business assessments and opportunities. This helps students understand the requirements of real business environments and markets; as well as providing insight into the manufacturing and synthetic turf industry. These assessments are aimed at broadening students horizons when they graduate, providing them with experience alongside their studies to enhance their chances of employment.

Alongside these assessments and inter-company work opportunities, we have decided to take our partnership with the University one step further by working with the Abertay to create a new scholarship opportunity and student prize within the Dundee Business School – providing additional support to students throughout their course and educational career.

The awards will be donated to the university, which is situated only 5 minutes away from the Bonar Yarns office, for the 2016/2017 academic year. These opportunities will be awarded annually to an undergraduate student studying the BA (Hons) in Marketing and Business, providing further help to support them through their final year at university – hopefully relieving some of their stress levels.

The scholarship opportunity is open to UK students at Abertay who are the first in their family to attend university or who come from a low-income background, whilst also taking into consideration their previous and current academic achievements.

The Bonar Yarns Prize, will be awarded each year to a student with the best performance across their modules whilst they are in the second year of their full-time BA (Hons) Marketing and Business degree.

A selection panel including a Bonar Yarns representative, an Abertay academic and the University's student advisory team will award the scholarship and the prize will feature in the University's annual Prize Giving Ceremony at the end of each academic year.

Abertay marketing lecturer Dr Jason Turner said: "It's exciting to see students getting an opportunity to compete for a scholarship, which will not only assist them financially through their studies, but also enhance their CV.

"The scholarship is a further step forward in our relationship with Bonar Yarns which began in 2014 with a student placement and has since developed into having a Marketing and Business graduate working for the company, a further placement student currently employed and a real world business assessment integrated into a marketing module. We look forward to this relationship continuing to flourish and thank Bonar Yarns for their support and encouragement of our students," adds Turner.

We're absolutely thrilled to be able to support a local university such as Abertay, with both a scholarship opportunity and rewarding students work through a university prize, and we look forward to working with Abertay University throughout the 2016/17 academic year.

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