



ESTC RESPONDS TO INCORRECT INFORMATION RE MICROPLASTICS RESTRICTION

Brussels, May 17, 2024

Stefan Diderich, Director General/CEO of [EMEA Synthetic Turf Council \(ESTC\)](#) said: “From 2031, the European Commission is set to impose restrictions on infill microplastics in synthetic turf.

“It is important to note that the manufacture, sale, or installation of synthetic turf itself will not be banned in the Netherlands, nor anywhere else in Europe. Restrictions will only be placed upon intentionally added microplastics in synthetic and recycled infill such as Styrol Butadiene Rubber (SBR). Neither will the use of fields using these infills installed prior to 2031 be prohibited when this legislation comes into effect.

“It should also be recognised the European Commission’s decision to impose these restrictions is not for any health-related concerns. Rather, it forms part of a wider environmental strategy to reduce microplastics, with the same rules applying to other product categories such as cosmetics and detergents.

“The safety of synthetic turf systems using crumb rubber infill is further supported by the 2019 European Risk Assessment Study on Synthetic Turf Rubber Infill (ERASSTRI), which concluded that there were no relevant health concerns for sportspeople who play on synthetic turf pitches using crumb rubber infill.”

For more information on the EMEA Synthetic Turf Council (ESTC), visit [estc.info](#)

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