



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Troy Squires
tsquires@astroturf.com
(800) 723-8873

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCTS SAFETY COMMISSION CONFIRMS THAT ASTROTURF® SYSTEMS AND OTHER SYNTHETIC FIELDS ARE SAFE

RALEIGH, NC. (July 30, 2008) – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) today released its evaluation of the safety of synthetic turf athletic fields, concluding that young children are not at risk from exposure to lead in these fields. As an overall guideline, the CPSC recommends that children wash their hands after playing outside. The commission's evaluation is available at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml08/08348.html>.

“As a company whose success depends on scientific fact and technical data, we were confident that the science would eventually prevail over the hyperbole of the past few months,” said Jon Pritchett, CEO of GSV. “We have said all along that concerns about potential health risks posed by synthetic turf fields were unrealistic based on the scientific evidence, and the CPSC announcement validates our position that AstroTurf® products are perfectly safe for children and athletes to enjoy. We are thankful that the federal government was able to move rapidly to calm the fears of our industry's customers all over the U.S.”

The CPSC's findings are consistent with those presented at a New York City press conference hosted by AstroTurf® in May. That presentation, titled *Synthetic Turf: The Science Behind the Safety*, is available in its entirety at www.astroturfusa.com. The contributing experts, including polymer and fiber engineering specialist Dr. Davis Lee, Ph.D., of InnovaNet Consulting; Dr. Black of Aegis Sciences Corporation, food and environmental toxicologist Dr. James R. Coughlin, Ph.D. of Coughlin & Associates, concurred that AstroTurf® products present no health risk.

“Our single most important priority is the safety of our products,” said GSV Chairman, Michael Dennis. “AstroTurf® is firmly committed to harnessing its vertical integration and expertise in an effort to continue leading the synthetic turf industry in research and innovation that enhances the quality of life in communities across the country.”

About AstroTurf®

The iconic AstroTurf® brand offers advanced, state-of-the-art, multi-sport and specialized synthetic turf systems with proprietary engineered technologies, leveraging the industry's only vertically integrated manufacturing system. The relaunch of AstroTurf®, including the enlistment of football legend Archie Manning as ambassador for the brand, has positioned it again as the leading innovator in the synthetic turf industry, with a growing number of high schools, colleges, professional sports teams and municipalities selecting AstroTurf®-branded products for their premium quality, technical superiority and safety. AstroTurf® is a registered trademark of Textile Management Associates, Inc.

###