



SAPCA Technical Meeting 2021

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FIFA Quality Programme for Futsal Surfaces

Handbook of Test Methods and Requirements

July 2019 Edition

FIFA

For the Game, For the World.

FIFA Quality Programme for Futsal Surfaces

Futsal – What is it?



- Futsal is the FIFA recognised form of small-sided indoor football.
- It is played between two teams who each have five players on the pitch at any one time. It uses a smaller ball than football that is harder and less bouncy.
- The small amount of space means players must have great technique and skill. This style of play means it is considered a great development tool for 11-a-side football.
- It is a professional sport with national and international championships, which includes a FIFA Futsal World Cup.

Futsal – A brief history



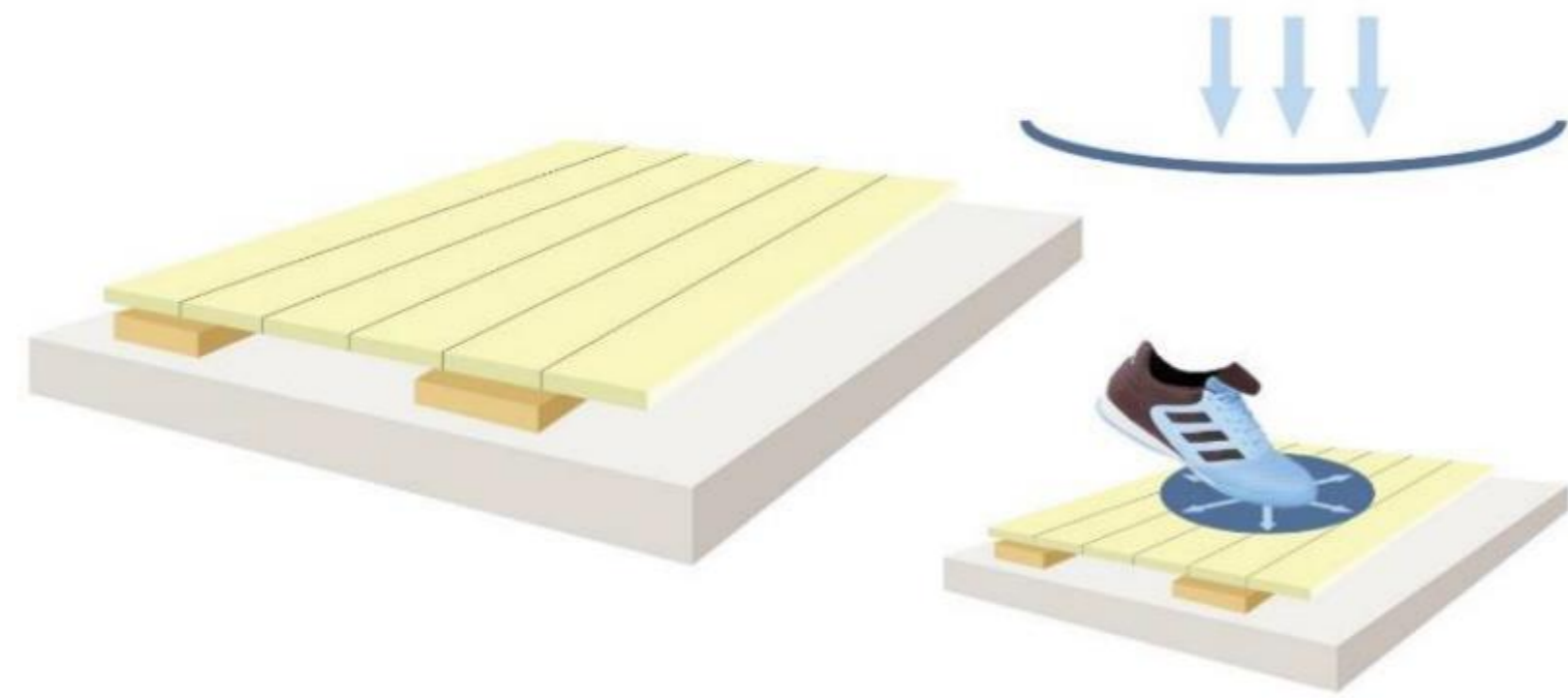
- The term Futsal comes from the Spanish term “Eútbol Sala”, which translated means “Indoor Football”.
- It was developed in South America in the 1930s and originally played on basketball courts.
- It combines rules from other sports; team sizes and 40 minute match duration from basketball, pitch and goal dimensions from handball, and goalkeeper rules from water polo.
- In 1989, FIFA took over as the sports governing body, holding the first edition of its World Cup in the Netherlands, with Brazil beating the hosts in the final.

Futsal – What surfaces is it played on?

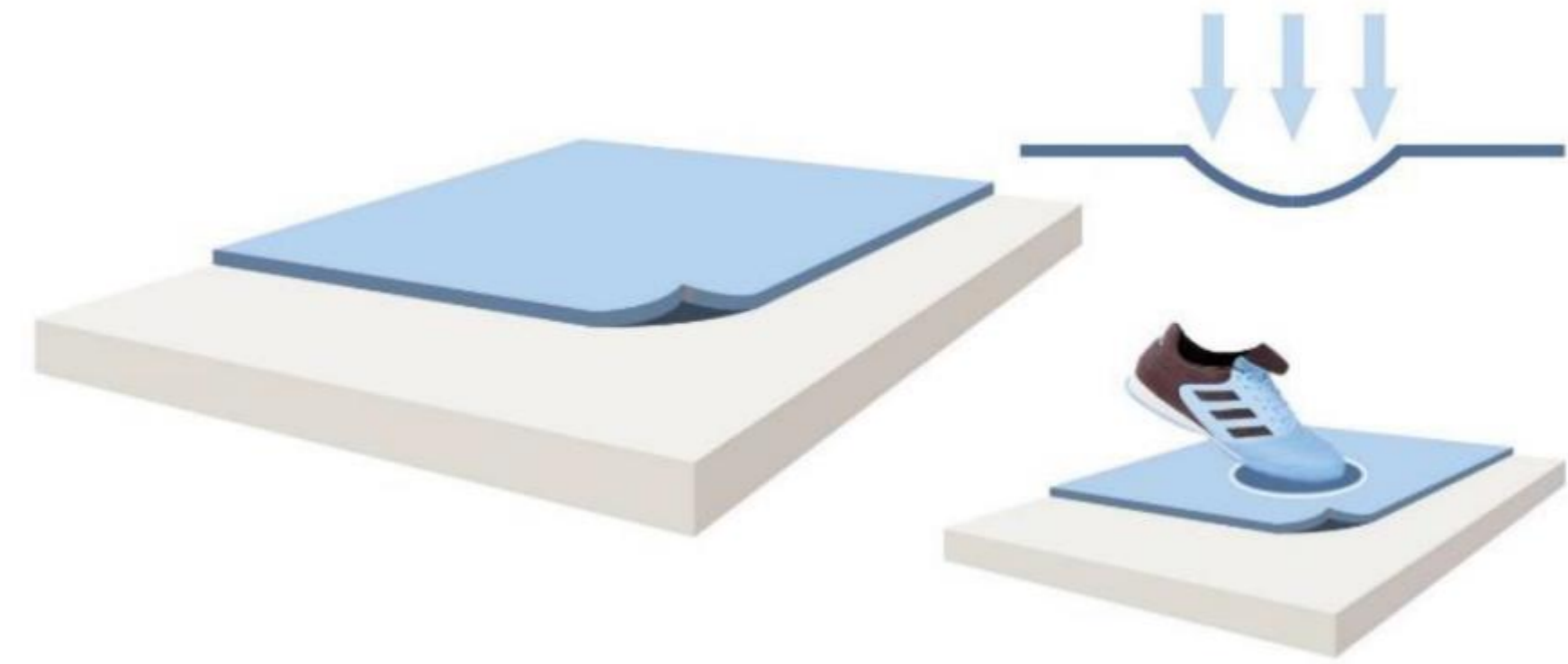


- Governed by the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.
- The surface must be flat, smooth and non-abrasive.
- Preferably made of wood or synthetic material.
- Synthetic turf is permitted in exceptional cases, but only for domestic competitions.

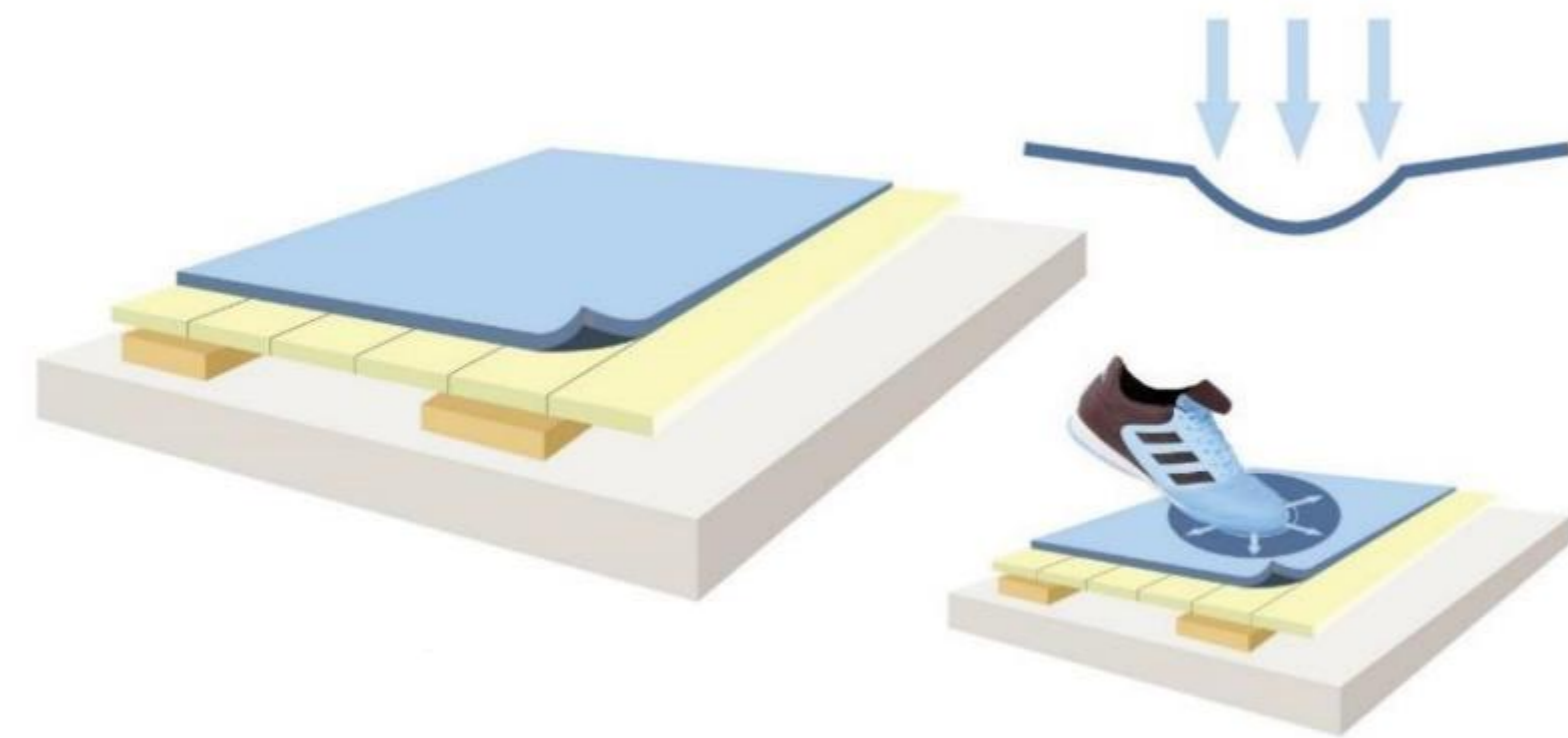
Futsal – What surfaces is it played on?



Area elastic



Point elastic



Combined elastic





Synthetic turf



Futsal – FIFA certification process

4 steps to a FIFA recommended playing surface



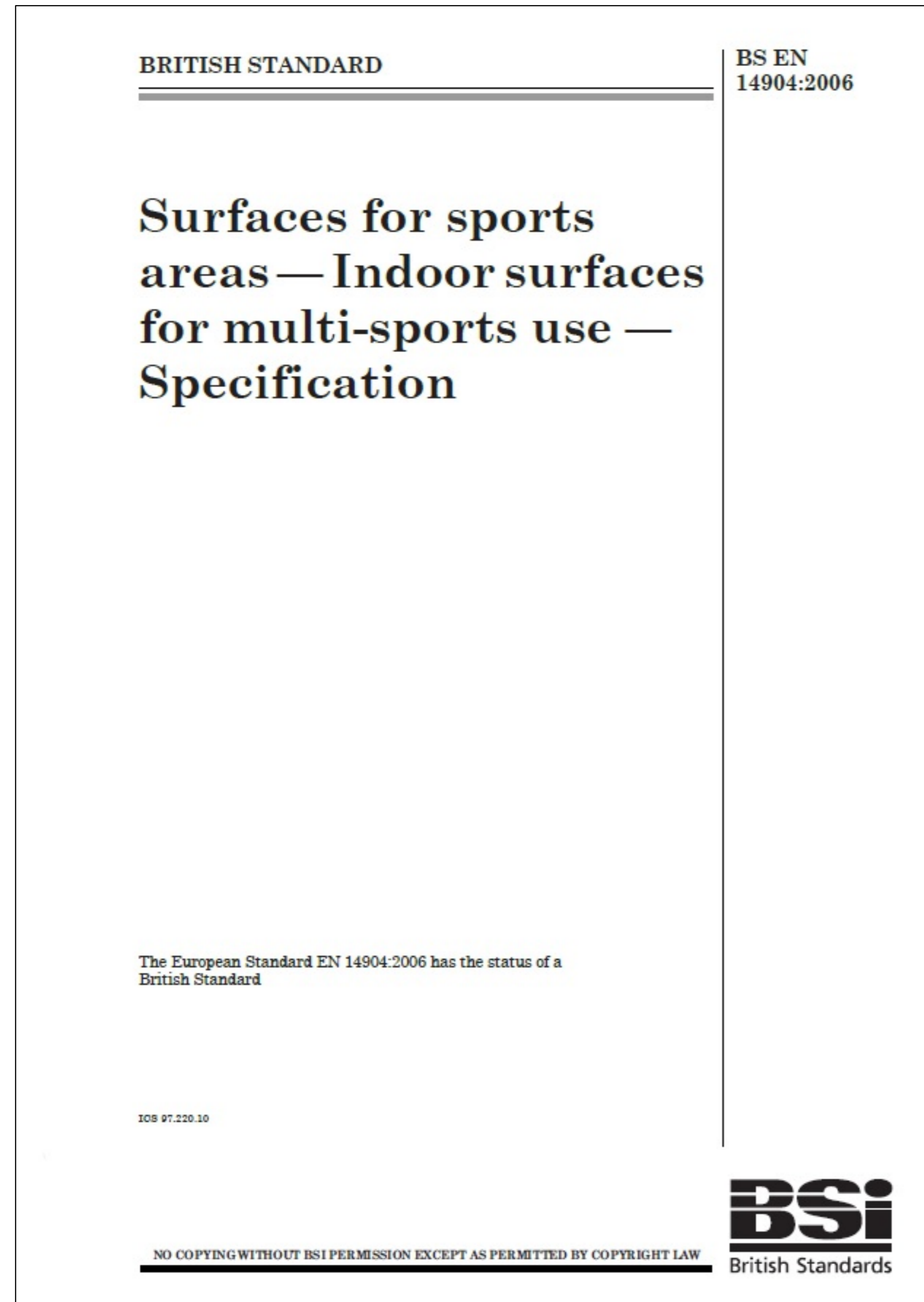
Legend:

  Tests performed by FIFA accredited Test Institutes only

  Originated by the manufacturer (FIFA licensee)

- In order to be certified, Futsal surfaces must meet the FIFA performance and quality requirements.
- Each pitch must undergo a four step process.
- Manufacturers need to be an existing or potential FIFA licensee.
- Certification valid for 3 years.

Futsal – FIFA certification process



- FIFA is aware of the multi-sport use of most indoor halls.
- The test methods and requirements are based on the European standard EN 14904.
- The requirements have been adjusted to better suit Futsal, but still take into account the needs of other sports.

Testing – What are the differences?



- Shock absorption and vertical deformation are measured with the Advanced Artificial Athlete (AAA).
- No ball rebound, reflectance, gloss or resistance to impact requirements.
- Mandatory to test for reaction to fire, formaldehyde and pentachlorophenol (PCP).

Testing – What are the differences?



- Point elastic floors can have a lower shock absorption of 18%.
- Higher vertical deformation is allowed, with $\leq 6\text{mm}$ for point elastic and $\leq 10\text{mm}$ for area elastic and combined elastic floors.
- Wider slip resistance requirement, with 115 PTV upper limit.
- Different dimensional requirements for international and non-international matches:

International = 38m - 42m x 20m - 25m

Non-international = 25m - 42m x 16m - 25m

Futsal – FIFA quality levels

- Currently only one level of FIFA certification.



- As with other FIFA quality programmes, other levels of certification are in development.



Futsal – FIFA research & developments

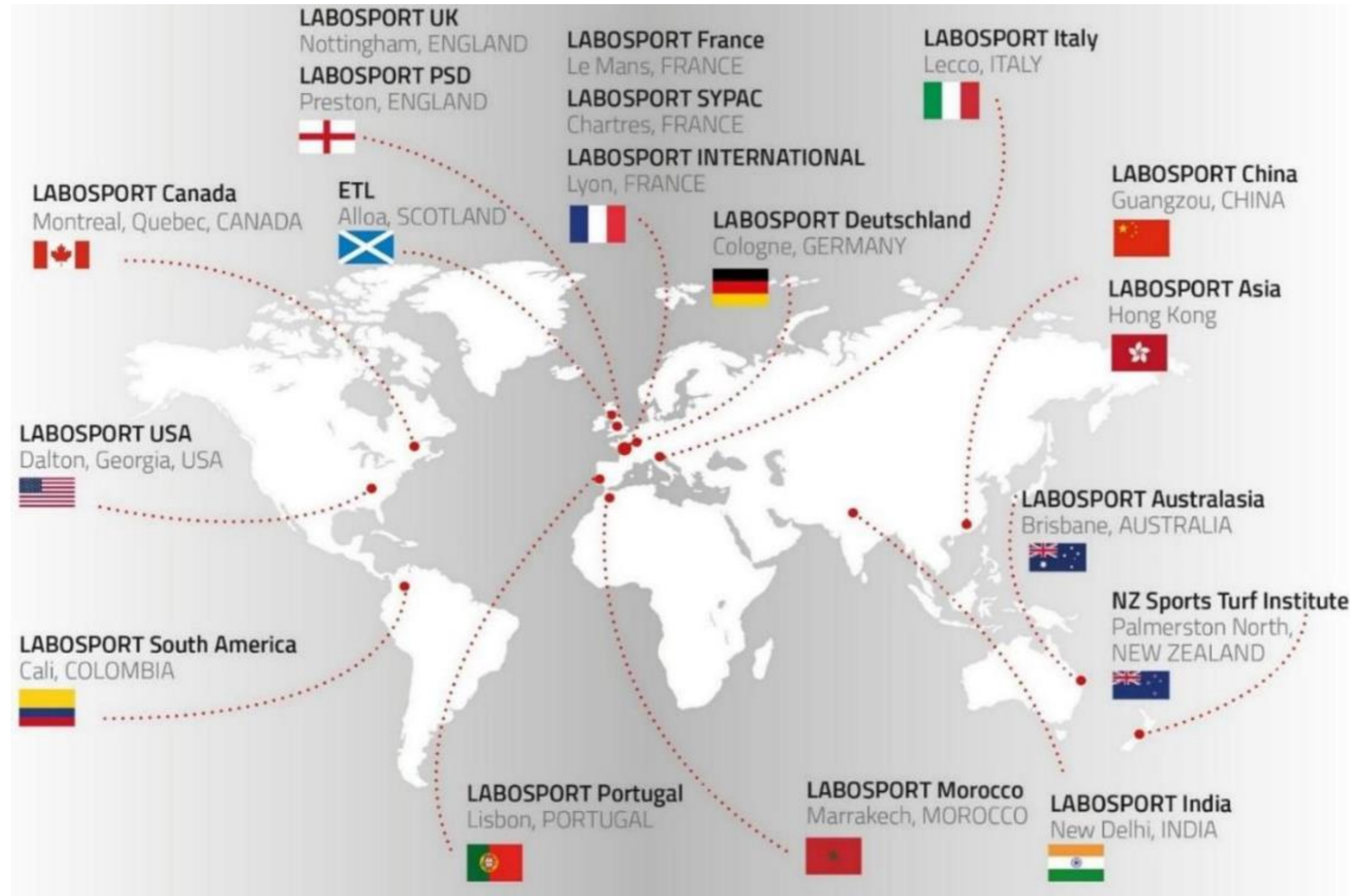


- Concussion – Possible introduction of CFH requirement?
- Sliding, fall and grip – Replacement of the pendulum method?
- Ball rebound requirement. Low rebound desirable.
- Is one surface type better for futsal than another?



- The FIFA resource hub is the public database of the FIFA quality programme.
- It covers playing surfaces, equipment and technologies.
- Accessible by the technical section on the FIFA website.
- Find lists of all FIFA licensed providers.

About Labosport



Contact:

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- Independent test institute and consultancy for sport & play surfaces and equipment.
- Established in 1993 with a global presence.
- Multi-disciplined team with expertise in materials science, engineering, chemistry, agronomy and instrumentation.
- Large scope of accreditations.