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Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, Inc

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AmeriTrack - Our highly acclaimed Racetrack Footing

This complete race track system is specifically designed and formulated for horse safety and injury reduction. AmeriTrack is engineered with a free-draining base and all-weather cushion. It incorporates a vertical drainage system which eliminates movement of the cushion to the rail and results in a consistent, no bias track.

Unlike many coated surfaces, AmeriTrack is manufactured without wax. AmeriTrack remains stable in extreme temperature conditions. During high temperatures, it will not melt or become soft, and during extreme cold, it will remain soft and pliable, rather than become hard and brittle.



Synthetic surfaces in the horse racing industry have received mixed press over the years. In 2006, motivated by evidence that synthetic surfaces resulted in a decrease in fatalities, the California Horseracing Board decreed that all racetracks in the state should switch to synthetics. Nine years later, all except one have been axed. Add to that several others throughout the United States, and the prestigious Meydan racetrack in Dubai, all being removed, tells a devastating story. All of these racetracks were installed with wax-based surfaces, and their problems have done untold damage to the reputation of synthetic surfaces. It is widely accepted that the wax coating could not cope with the temperature variations throughout a day, and throughout the year, riding hard and fast in the colder parts of the day/year, and soft and slow in the hotter parts of the day/year.

About Attwood Equestrian Surfaces:

Since 1992 Attwood Equestrian Surfaces has been at the forefront of footing development. We are the original manufacturer of dust-free footing (polymer coated sand) in the USA. Our premier equestrian surfaces are engineered from meticulously selected sand, blended with micro poly-fibers and coated with a viscoelastic polymer. Our years of experience in working with textiles and sand have provided us with the knowledge to produce consistent high performance equestrian surfaces. We formulate for all equestrian disciplines who train in a wide range of climates. It's this experience and our continuous innovation that keeps us at the forefront of equestrian footing development. We understand the need for carefully engineered surfaces that benefit the horse and rider. Our dust-free equestrian surface product offerings are Ameritrack, Pinnacle, and Terra Nova. Our sand-blend water dependent equestrian surface product offerings are comprised of Euro Tex and GGT Footing™ textiles.

Hall of Fame

Equestrian legends join the British Society's hall of fame



Four legendary sport horses plus one human equestrian star have been inducted into the British Horse Society's hall of fame.

[Newly appointed British performance coach Chris Bartle](#) was enrolled earlier this month (24 November).

Outstanding event horses **Opposition Buzz**, **Chilli Morning**, and **Avebury** have also been recognised, as well as showjumper **Philco**.

Plaques to commemorate all of those inducted are displayed on the wall of the Household Cavalry's barracks in Knightsbridge.

You can follow the entire story [here](#)

A Day at Attwood *Videos and much more*





As horsemen, we love to talk about the footing. Good, bad, but never indifferent. Good footing can actually increase the longevity of a horse's career. Bad footing can send you straight to the vet. Recently the FEI published a white paper discussing the science behind good footing. The same scientific approach that has been applied to Attwood's premium blends for almost twenty years.

From the hoof's first impact to the rollover, there is a concussive element to all footing. Mostly, the horse's soft tissue will absorb much of it, but good footing can minimize the effects. As the horse's hoof impacts the surface, there is movement forward. Not enough grip and the horse will slip. Too much grip and the horse cannot move freely. It takes a master craftsman who understands the science and a horse's biomechanics to make truly good footing. That's why America's leading riders choose Attwood.

Have you checked out our new look website? We have a bunch of exciting videos coming up, so [keep checking back in](#)

Head over to our [YouTube channel](#) to view and watch our entire video catalogue. We have a few more exciting videos coming up, so keep watching this space

Featured Client

St Bride's Farm



St. Bride's Farm is a privately owned farm located in the rolling hills of Northern Virginia, specializing in the breeding, training & showing of world class Show jumpers. We installed our Pinnacle footing in their indoor arena in 2011. This facility has two successful riders, Ramiero Quintana, with many wins on Whitney, and Susie Hutchison, with many awards riding on Ziedento. These two Riders compete nationally and internationally.

To read more on our clients, check out [our website](#).

Footing Facts

Equestrian Arenas around the World Part 4: Middle East

We complete this mini-series on equestrian sport surfaces around the world by visiting the Middle East.

This part of the world is generally characterised by hot, dry weather. Winters are cooler and can give rise to some rain. For instance the city of Dubai in United Arab Emirates on average receives 25mm in its wettest month of February, but no rain in the months of June, July, August and September. During the summer, average temperatures are around 40°C, whilst only in the winter months does the temperature dip to a more comfortable 25°C. Consequently equestrian activity is greatest during these winter months.

The heat and sun intensity, and lack of rain present special difficulties for riding surfaces. Because water is scarce across the region, traditional watered arenas are not always an easy choice. Over-spraying is an inefficient way of watering an arena, so the newer underground watering systems are proving popular. These systems claim to use considerably less water since none is lost to over-spraying and 'in-flight' evaporation. Of course water still evaporates from the surface so in this hot, dry region water usage is still high.

This has made coated surfaces particularly attractive, although their success has been mixed. This has been primarily due to the poor performance of wax-based footings. Equestrian waxes are mixtures of soft crystalline solids, that begin to melt at temperatures typical of surface temperatures in the Middle East. Whilst the wax manufacturers blend different waxes to try to limit the effects, inevitably there is a huge change in properties as the wax starts to turn to liquid (think of a melting candle).



A second problem with wax is its U.V. stability, and can degrade badly in sunlight. This often leads to a severe darkening of the footing - a phenomenon that caused controversy at the high profile Meydan Racetrack in Dubai which contributed to the wax surface being removed in 2014, only four years after being installed. There are many other, less high profile wax catastrophes dotted around the region. In many cases we find that those facilities suffering a wax failure have to water the footing to hold it together - the very practice a coated surface is meant to eliminate.



Attwood's coated surface Pinnacle, is not coated with a wax. Our coating is a polymer, or more commonly called a plastic. But it is not any polymer. Firstly Attwood's polymer is a special type that does not melt in the conventional way - there is no abrupt change from solid to liquid as with wax. Attwood's polymer merely softens slightly as the temperature is raised, and this is barely noticeable over the typical temperatures found in the climates of the world. Secondly the polymer has significantly better sunlight stability so degrades significantly less in the sun.

Our Social Media Channels



Continue to engage with us on the social media platform of your choice, [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#). We love to hear from you!

You can also contact us at info@equestriansurfaces.com, info@attwood.in and enquiries@aesurfaces.co.uk.

Download our previous newsletters from our [archives](#).

Attwood Equestrian Surfaces provides meticulously engineered surfaces that benefit both the horse and the rider



