SPAZIO

MONDO®

No. 24 • Second quarter 2011

South Korea
Sportflex Super X at Daegu 2011

Texas
A&M University, Gilliam Indoor Track

Canada
The Richmond Oval

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Mondo, one of the stars at Daegu 2011

IAAF World Championships

Once again South Korea was the stage for a world-class sporting event. Under the eyes of the audience were the track and equipment by Mondo

Daegu 2011

The numbers

IAAF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Start: August 27, 2011
End: September 4, 2011
Number of sports: 47
Countries: 201

DAEGU STADIUM
Inauguration: June 28, 2001
Owner: Daegu Metropolitan City Operator
Cost: USD 265 million
Architect: Kang Cheol-Hee (Idea Image Institute of Architects)
Roof design: WS Atkins
Seating capacity: 66,222
Size of field: 105 x 68 m
Total size of stadium: 47,684 square meters

Not just any sporting event: the IAAF World Championships hosted in the South Korean city of Daegu is seen by local authorities as an opportunity to improve the image that the general public has of athletics. "The World Championships will help athletics make a huge leap forward and make our wishes come true. In this regard, Daegu 2011 is a unique opportunity for us to keep up with changing times not only when it comes to athletic performance, but also in terms of pop culture," assures Dong-Jin Oh, President of the KAAF (Korean Association of Athletics Federations).

The new track

The venue for the competitions was Daegu Stadium, a complex finished in May 2001. It has been put to the test by already hosting other important sporting events such as the Football World Cup (2002) and Universiade (2003). The stadium was entirely renovated for the IAAF World Championships starting with the track built by Mondo: the first blue-colored track in Korea. "It was the first time that the Organizing Committee used a Mondo track, which was tested at Colorful Daegu Pre-Championships (May 2011), the last meeting before the event. The same Mondo surface was used at the Warm-Up Stadium and the throwing warm-up area," explained Jun Kim, Director of the Organizing Committee. It took nine months and three Mondo teams to lay the track, from March to December 2010. During the last two months they were supported by ten local workers. "The Organizing Committee has nothing to complain about; the color and material are excellent and the track fits perfectly into the stadium giving a feeling of brightness and warmth," added Jun Kim. "We have done everything possible to guarantee the athletes, the true protagonists of the Championships, optimal conditions so that they can compete at their best," commented Bum-Il Kim, Mayor of Daegu and Co-President of the Organizing Committee.

The equipment

The Committee also awarded Mondo the contract to supply the equipment needed for the competitions: solutions for high jump and pole vault, hurdles, distance markers, carts for carrying equipment for throwing sports. The solutions especially created for Daegu 2011 drew the attention of TV broadcasters for their color and the logos in plain sight for everyone to see. Luca Reinaudo, Track&Field Product Manager at Mondo, explains, "We chose red because it is the color of our Track&Field business unit and because it is the color of the IAAF. Right from the test event held before the Championships we realized that it was the right choice because red matches perfectly with the blue of the track creating a visual effect that many TV crews appreciated a lot."
"Before the Championships our logos were usually smaller," continues Reinaudo. In the spring of this year (i.e., 2011) we decided to make some changes that fully comply with IAAF regulations by using larger logos and to make the most of the media coverage of such a major event. That's why flat surfaces were created on the equipment. They were specifically designed to apply large Mondo logos." This visibility, together with the quality and ease of use of the solutions, was the winning stroke that convinced the organizers of the next IAAF World Indoor Championships (Istanbul, March 2012) to sign a contract with Mondo at Daegu 2011 for the purchase of the equipment for the event. Even the British Federation has followed suit with its decision to purchase part of the equipment for the forthcoming 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Experience and assistance

The Daegu Championships have provided Mondo the opportunity to prove how the experience gained over the years can be a plus that is hard to find on the market. "Mondo not only supplies equipment, but also technical assistance," explains Reinaudo. "For the Daegu project, two of our technicians were onsite before the start of the Championships and they stayed there during the entire event to provide support". One of the most delicate aspects when it comes to supplying equipment is logistics. The technicians that Mondo sends to the location of an event receive the material that, as in the case of Daegu, has probably traveled for weeks inside a container. Mondo is right there while the goods are being unloaded to make sure that no damage occurs. Once unloaded, the entire material and especially the electronic devices are tested. Once they have checked that the equipment works, they move on to train the Organizing Committee's official and volunteer staff who may be used to working with other brands of equipment.

Managing the equipment

When the competitions start, the most important aspect is maintenance. This pertains especially to the hurdles whose pinewood bars often need to be changed after every competition. The technicians' work continues even after the event when everything has to be packed up again, loaded on containers and sent back to Mondo's warehouse in Spain. The contract with IAAF envisages that the event's organizers can rent the equipment, which continues to be property of Mondo. "The importance of having technicians onsite is essential even for improving the equipment, stresses Reinaudo. The comments we receive from athletes, judges and organizers often lead to even minor changes that can improve quality and make using the equipment easier."

SURFACE
Sportflex Super X Perfomance

"The Oval's level of program convertibility and multi-sport use is unprecedented in a high-performance sport building especially one that is so technically demanding and environmentally sensitive."

Richmond Oval

Derek Lepper Photography

Cannon Design

Cannon Design is an Ideas Based Practice, ranked among the leading international firms in planning and design for healthcare, science & technology, education, sports & recreation and government clients. At present, the firm employs a staff of over 1,000, delivering services in 16 offices throughout North America, as well as in Shanghai, China and Mumbai, India.

Cannon Design strives to create environments that are a thoughtful response to the program mission, physical setting and functional purpose, reflecting the spirit and personality of each owner. The firm is focused on quality – with client satisfaction as the ultimate measurement. Cannon Design works continuously to advance the state of the art, contributing to the built environment and quality of life of the people for whom it creates living and working spaces.

Emphasizing lightness, transparency and translucence, the interiors of the Richmond Oval in British Columbia, Canada, mitigate its large scale, reflecting the openness, accessibility and fun that lie at its conception. Situated on the Middle Arm of the Fraser River, the Oval is the centerpiece of a new, urban, mixed-use waterfront neighborhood that is expected to be an international destination and meeting place, offering diverse indoor and outdoor recreational activities, shopping and services. The signature speed skating venue for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games includes a landmark multi-purpose sports, recreation and community facility.

Challenge

Beginning with the 1988 Games in Calgary, all Olympic long-track speed skating facilities—except for the venue in Albertville in 1992—have been huge indoor facilities. Built solely to host Olympic speed-skating events, they have thus faced significant revenue and operations challenges after the Games. To be cost effective, an indoor Olympic long-track speed skating venue must be convertible for other uses.

Design solution

To establish guiding principles for the facility, the design team hosted a "visioning" session with all stakeholders. Through an integrated design process, the team set goals, including LEED Silver certification; identified building system synergies; and developed a design solution that optimized energy use, environmental health, and aesthetic values within the triple–bottom-line definition of sustainability. Charettes in sustainability, urban and building design encouraged an open and collaborative process. The result: a design that optimized the best ideas into a functional, operationally superior and aesthetically attractive legacy facility with life beyond the 2010 Games.

The Oval is organized around three levels. On the second level, a clear-span arch structure of approximately 330 feet houses the speed skating track and the legacy sports. The lower level provides support functions and parking, and the upper level offers a mezzanine for fitness programs, spectator seating and hospitality lounge. The facility is a model for cutting-edge sustainable design, breaking new ground for sports and wellness facilities. In addition to conferring direct environmental and social benefits, the building's green design earned LEED Silver certification—a highly unusual achievement for a facility of this type (refrigeration) and size—and it is expected to yield significant operational cost savings over the building's lifespan.

Materials and system selection

The Oval's main structure is composed of 15 composite wood glue-laminated arches, spanning an unprecedented 100 meters in length. Locally harvested Douglas Fir lumber was formed into V-shaped composite shape to achieve the span and carried on 30 concrete buttresses.

The Oval's roof deck and the secondary structural panels that span 15 meters between the Glulam arches are composed of regionally harvested, pine-beetle–killed wood, nailed together to form a V-shaped wood box, and arched to create the vaulted ceiling panels forming the "Wood Wave." Using wood from pine forests recently devastated by the pine-beetle epidemic in British Columbia for the entire 100 meter-by-200 meter area of the roof structure allowed a distinctively beautiful surface to be produced with ordinary domestic lumber at substantial cost savings.

The 20,000 square meter roof integrates heating, ventilating, air conditioning, plumbing, acoustical, electrical and lighting systems and their appurtenances, resulting in an elegant, clean surface appearance. Sprinkler pipes and sprinkler heads are also integrated into the Wood Wave ceiling panels and the arches.

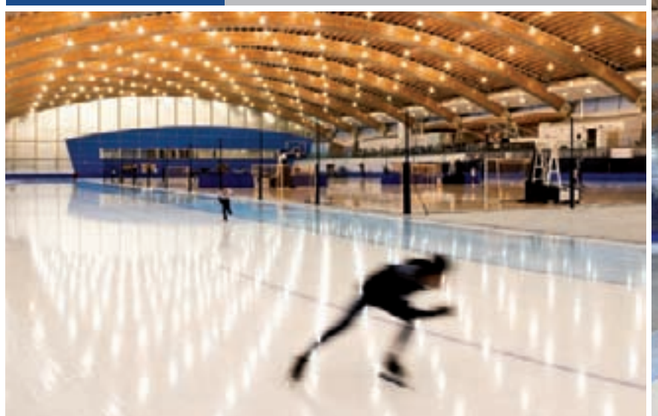
The Oval's level of program convertibility and multi-sport use is unprecedented in a high-performance sport building—especially one that is so technically demanding and environmentally sensitive. During the Games, the Oval housed a 400-meter speed skating track with approximately 8,000 seats, television cameras and upgraded lighting. Interior spaces were reassigned to cater to the needs of athletes, media, spectators and the Olympic family. A complete range of sports medicine, wellness services and activity areas, including a major fitness center, were also housed in the Oval, along with retail and food service.

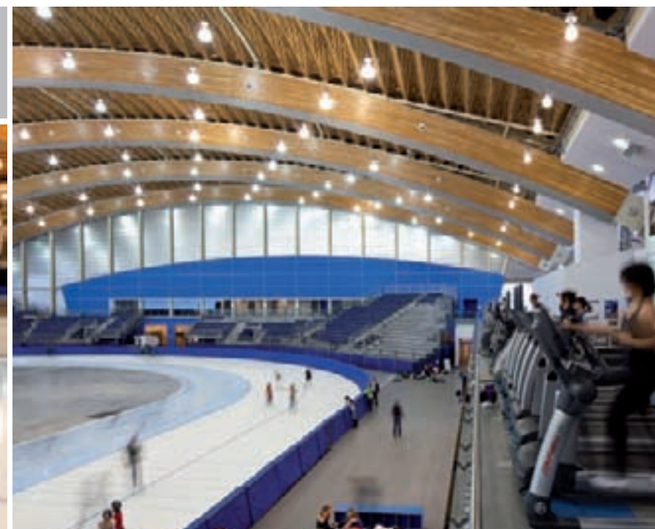
Following the Games, the Oval became an international center of excellence for sports and wellness. With three activity zones—an ice zone, a court zone, and a track zone—the building's main activity space allows ice sports to occur simultaneously with other sports or community uses. The facility also provides several fitness areas. At any time, the facility can revert to the 400 meter long-track speed skating oval.

SURFACE
Ramflex 10mm

The numbers

Architect: Cannon Design
Completion Date: October 12, 2008
Size: 47,116 square meters
Project Cost: $178 million (Canadian)

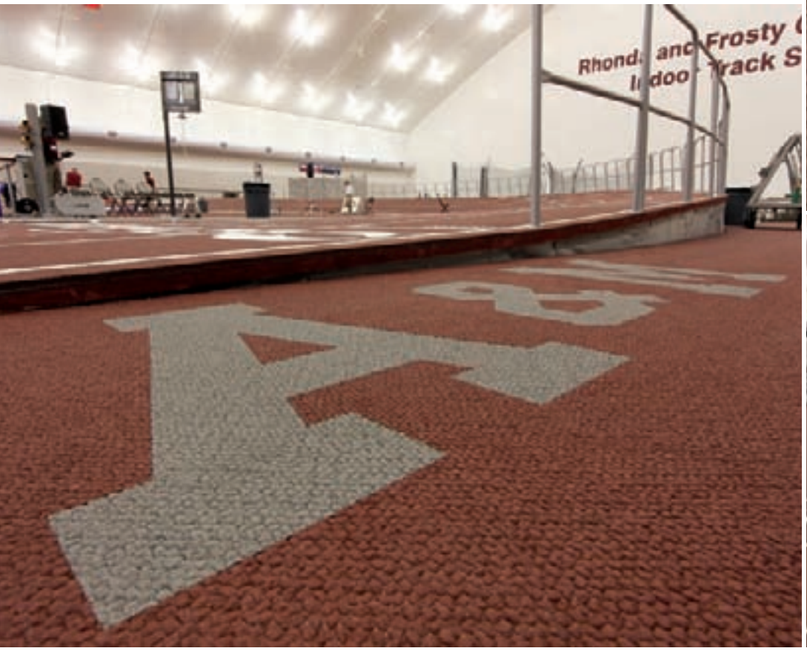




Gilliam Indoor Track Stadium

Texas A&M University

"We wanted a track that would let athletes perform their best and Mondo has proven that it does."



Texas A&M University's Gilliam Indoor Track Stadium already has been the setting for some highly anticipated track meets this year, including the NCAA Division I Indoor Championships and the Texas A&M–Mondo Challenge, where track and field athletes from two rival athletic conferences vied for bragging rights. The $38 million facility, which was completed in December 2008, is one of the largest collegiate indoor track and field facilities in the U.S. and boasts one of the world's few hydraulic banked tracks.

Manufactured by Mondo, the state-of-the-art, six-lane, 200-meter track system sports a Mondotrack surface. What makes the track special are two curved sections that can be banked for high-speed running events and a hydraulic system that raises and lowers the surface with just a push of a button; the process can be completed in a few minutes.

Pat Henry, Texas A&M's track and field head coach, said that when choosing among tracks for the new facility, he knew they needed a banked track to enable athletes to achieve qualifying times for NCAA Indoor Track & Field championships and the USA Indoor Championships.

"It's almost impossible to run a qualifying time on a 200 meter flat track anymore," he said. "A banked track allows the athletes to achieve their best possible times and enable them to qualify for championship meets."
A banked track lets runners maintain their speed going into turns for faster overall times. "On a flat surface, runners have to slow down to make turns. But with a banked track, athletes can maintain their speeds because there's much less deceleration at turns."

A hydraulic system was another requirement, so Gilliam would not be limited to just track and field events. Hydraulic tracks can be lowered to be perfectly flat, and when the track is leveled with the surrounding surfaces, the facility can easily be used for other sports or activities. In addition, the track and the rest of the floor are easier to clean when the track is in the lowered position.

Henry was familiar with the Mondo banked track at the University of Arkansas. "It had the kind of banking that I felt was appropriate for the best performances, so I talked to Mondo about getting a track with the same radius and banking," he said. "If we could do that, then we would have one of the best, and fastest tracks in the country."

The university also chose a Mondo track in part because of the company's longevity and consistent quality. "In my 38 years of coaching, I've dealt with Mondo extensively," Henry said. "Unlike many other companies that are in business for only a few years, Mondo is a stable company that back their products with the best in service." Just as the veteran coach envisioned, the Mondo track is very fast. In a little more than two years, eight collegiate track records have been set on the track. "We've had some great performances on the Mondo track," Henry said. "We wanted a track that would let athletes perform their best and Mondo has proven that it does."

In addition, Henry says the Mondotrack surface is holding up very well. "We've run a lot of meets on it, and we've been very pleased with its strength and wear. It's doing everything Mondo said it would."

With a gleaming new venue and state-of-the-art track, Texas A&M has been selected to host several prestigious meets in the past few years, including two NCAA Division I Indoor Track and Field Championships (2009 and 2011). "Having such a great facility with an equally great track lets you be considered to host national championships," Henry said. "People around the country understand what a wonderful facility Gilliam Indoor Track Stadium is, and that we have a superb, fast track. We're proud to have such a magnificent indoor track and field facility with a world-class track system from Mondo."

SURFACE
Mondotrack

SYSTEM
Mondo 200-meter hydraulic banked track

www.spaziomondo.com FROM PRINT TO ONLINE

What is spaziomondo online? Spaziomondo is Mondo's new magazine: the once hard copy has now become an innovative website rich in content and always up-to-date. There is an entire newsroom behind Spaziomondo to report about Mondo's projects. It offers ample space to focus on people, ideas and materials behind every project.
A traditional magazine would never have been enough to tell the many stories. The Internet has allowed us to overcome these limits by offering us the opportunity to enhance every article with background information, photo galleries, biographies and direct links to Google Maps. It is a true gold mine at everyone's disposal providing information in a clear and professional manner.

Good for the environment... Aside from the many advantages illustrated above, an electronic magazine allows us to respect for the environment and ecology which have always played a key role among Mondo's values.
This was an easy environmental decision when you think of the savings in terms of paper and CO_2 emissions into the atmosphere.

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In this section it is possible to search through projects by sport (athletics, basketball, soccer, etc.)

3 HOME ARCHITECTURE

In this section it is possible to search through projects by type of architectural structure (indoor arenas, stadiums, etc.)

HOME PEOPLE 2

Section dedicated to people: architects, designers and athletes from all over the world or people mentioned in the articles.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA 4

Section dedicated to the geographic location of the facilities analyzed using Google Maps.

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IAAF World Indoor Championships Istanbul 2012
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NEWS

Turkey: Mondo shines at Istanbul!

It is now official: Mondo will be the track and equipment supplier for the XIV IAAF World Indoor Championships that will be held in Istanbul March 9th and 10th, 2012. This is yet another opportunity that proves the organizational prowess of the Alba-based company and the outstanding performance of its products!