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$800 000 resurfacing of Arafura Stadium athletics track completed

The $800 000 resurfacing of the athletics track at the Arafura Stadium at Marrara has been completed re-instating the track as a venue for future national training camps and ensuring it is ready for next year's Arafura Games.

The stadium is managed by Northern Territory Athletics and is also the home of the Northern Territory Institute of Sport.

The full re-sealing follows temporary repairs made in May this year to enable the track to be used as a training facility for members of the Australian Athletics Team preparing for the Manchester Commonwealth Games.

An inspection by a member of the International Association of Athletics Federations led to a ruling that the track would not be acceptable or suitable for the Arafura Games without a major overhaul.

The new track has been laid by Balsam Pacific, the company which installed the original athletics track in 1989, and carried out the temporary repairs in May.

The Minister for Sport and Recreation, Mr John Ah Kit, inspecting the final stages of the re-sealing project -- the linemarkings -- said it once again gave Darwin and the Northern Territory a world-class athletics track.

"It means we can proudly offer this track to Australian and other National Athletics Teams particularly from Southeast Asian Countries as a world class training and acclimatisation facility with the spin-off benefits of exposing our Territory athletes to world-class competition and skills", Mr Ah Kit said.

Linemarking is expected to be completed in a day or two making the track ready for use once again.

Australia’s Northern Territory