Industry Update



Source: www.TurfMagazine.com

Putting at Home Takes an Organic Approach

Putting at Home, located in Norcross, Ga., creates environmentally sound approaches to native backyard golf putting greens and grass landscapes. The company offers green information, resources, guidance, organic fertilizers and the book "How to Build a Putting Green," by S. Barry Hamdani. Members receive maintenance schedules, homemade compost directories, topdressing manuals and more via e-mail. Visit www.puttingathome.com to learn more.

Piscataqua Landscaping Celebrates 30th Year

Piscataqua Landscaping Co., Inc., Eliot, Maine, celebrated its 30th anniversary with an event honoring staff, clients and vendors. Owner Booth Hemingway founded the company in 1979.

Lebanon Presents Royalty Check to Rutgers Turfgrass Center

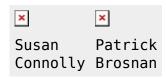
LebanonTurf, a division of Lebanon Seaboard Corp., presented a check for \$280,556 to the Center for Turfgrass Science at Rutgers University as royalty payment for the center's help in developing several of the company's top turfgrass varieties. LebanonTurf has been working with Rutgers since the early 1990s in support of its seed and turfgrass businesses. The turfgrass center was established in 1991.

Turf Intelligence Formed

Turf Intelligence LLC, a newly formed company, will focus on helping turf managers utilize data from measurement technology to optimize inputs and maintain consistently exceptional conditions. Services will include data mapping for site analysis and management planning; assistance with the selection and implementation of measurement technology into maintenance programs; and formation and analysis of on-site research. Visit www.turfintel.com for more information.

SavATree Acquires H.R. Spooner

SavATree has merged with H.R. Spooner Ornamental Care, based in East Falmouth, Mass. H.R. Spooner has provided Cape Cod residents with plant health care services for over a decade.



News from Foley

Susan Connolly, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Foley, Inc., has joined the Associated General Contractors of New Jersey board of trustees as an associate member representative. Connolly joined Foley in 1974 and has served in her current position since 2000.

Patrick Brosnan has joined Foley as a rental account manager. Brosnan earned a degree in international business from Roger Williams University and gained experience at another Caterpillar dealership.

KeyPlex Expands into New Markets with EcoSyn

KeyPlex has expanded into the professional services arena, including the landscape, golf and sports turf markets, with their micronutrients and advanced plant nutrition product line. KeyPlex chose EcoSyn Distributors of New Smyrna Beach, Fla., and Oneonta, N.Y., as the national distribution coordinator.

Hunter-Welborn Returns to Hunter Industries

Ann Hunter-Welborn has returned to Hunter Industries as vice president of human resources. She was active in the business from 1983 to 1995. Prior to that, she taught special education. She will continue to serve as chair of the board of directors.

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Front row, from left, Michael Whittington, SSC service manager; Billy Penick, Keith Seward and Al Bettis, SSC territory managers; Jay Larsen; and Robert Smith, SSC vice president. Back row, from left, Danny Rachow, Jerry Freeman and Marty Kelly, SSC territory managers; Chris Martin; and Billy Smith, SSC president.

Maruyama Conducts Distributor Training Program

Maruyama U.S., Inc. held a two-day training meeting for employees at Smiths South-Central Sales Co., Springhill, La. Chris Martin, regional sales manager, and Jay Larsen, technical sales support manager, conducted the training.

Toro Announces Joint Venture with TCF

The Toro Co. announced the creation of a new joint venture with TCF Inventory Finance, Inc., an indirect subsidiary of TCF Financial Corp. Under the name Red Iron Acceptance, LLC, the new commercial finance entity will provide U.S. distributors and dealers and select Canadian distributors of the Toro and Exmark brands with a source of floor plan and open account financing. TCFIF's affiliate, TCF Commercial Finance Canada, Inc., will provide financing to Canadian dealers.

Customer support services for Red Iron will be located at Toro's headquarters in Bloomington, Minn., with "back office" operations housed at TCFIF's

offices in Hoffman Estates, Ill. Tom Evans will serve as general manager of the new entity.

Kioti Earns USCA Award

Kioti Tractor, a division of Daedong Industrial Co. Ltd. based in Wendell, N.C., has been awarded the 2009 Best of Wendell Award in the industrial tractors category from the U.S. Commerce Association. USCA's Best of Local Business Awards Program recognizes outstanding local businesses throughout the country. Winners are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers, loyalty to their employees and support of the community.

Turf Pride Expands Production

Turf Pride announced an expansion of its production of the new Ultra Blade to include certain models of John Deere, Toro and Jacobsen/Textron rotary mowers. The Ultra Blade is a super-thin rotary blade made of nickel, chrome and carbon steel.

× From left. Dennis Ervin, director οf marketing and sales, Country Clipper; Jay Eck, Boettcher; Carl Shivvers, president, Shivvers Mfg., Inc.; and John Willard, national sales manager, Country Clipper.

Country Clipper Names Distributor of the Year

Country Clipper announced that Boettcher Supply, Inc., Beloit, Kan., earned its 2009 Distributor of the Year Award. Boettcher has dealers in Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Colorado, and was recognized for its outstanding results in the areas of sales growth, dealer service, training and customer support.

Good Ideas Names VP of Sales & Marketing

Scott T. Jonap was named vice president of sales and marketing for Good Ideas, Inc., Lake City, Pa. He has over 25 years of senior-level sales and marketing experience in the lawn and garden, hardware and home improvement markets.

Bobcat to Consolidate Operations

Bobcat Co. announced that it is transferring all North American machinery production to its original manufacturing facility in Gwinner, N.D., resulting in discontinued production at its plant in Bismarck, N.D., by the end of 2009. Currently, mini excavators, the Toolcat, the S70 skid steer and mini track loaders are manufactured in Bismarck, while all other Bobcat loaders are made in Gwinner.

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Mark Chuck
Williams Greif

Jacobsen Appoints New Regional Sales Managers

Mark Williams has been promoted to the position of western regional manager for Jacobsen. He began his career with the company in 1988 as a sales manager for the Jacobsen factory store, and most recently served as a territory sales manager.

Chuck Greif was appointed to the position of eastern regional manager. Previously, he served in various roles at E-Z-GO.

PBI/Gordon Supports GreenCare for Troops

PBI/Gordon Corp. held a contest to support Project EverGreen's GreenCare for Troops program. The company's employee-owners were divided into teams to compete to see who could collect the most coins in their collection jar. A total of \$2,000 was raised for Buck it Up for Military Families, which the company has agreed to match. Buck it Up is an industry fund-raising program that supports GreenCare.

LandscapeSafety Launches

LandscapeSafety, Inc. announced its official launch. It offers 17 equipment-specific modules in English and Spanish, covering landscape maintenance, landscape construction and golf course maintenance. Training is via an interactive online lesson, with an online exam and practical safety check for every piece of equipment.

Lawn Dawg and Brighton Complete Recapitalization

Lawn Dawg, Inc., Nashua, N.H., announced that Brighton Partners, LLC, Atlanta, Ga., has completed a recapitalization of its lawn care operations, acquiring a 70 percent stake in the business while providing working capital.

The company will continue to operate under the Lawn Dawg name and currently operates four facilities.

× Mike McCarthy, McCarthy Research Farms, addresses a group of salespeople and customers at the Lewisburg turf research trials.

Seedway Hosts Event at Turf Trials

Seedway, Hall, N.Y., hosted a tour of turf seed research trials in Lewisburg, Pa., for turf seed salespeople and customers. Attendees reviewed hundreds of turf-type tall fescue and ryegrass varieties that are being examined for possible commercial release. Seedway partners with Allied Seed, Nampa, Idaho, and McCarthy Research Farms, Forest Grove, Ore., on turf variety evaluations at the Lewisburg facility.

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