**NEW PRODUCTS**
The latest products on the market reviewed

**JACOBSEN AR250 ROTARY MOWER PROVES ITS WORTH**

A Jacobson AR250 five unit rotary mower has proved its worth on the 18 hole golf course at Mount Pleasant Farm and Country Club at Saxton on the Isle of Man. With over 5,000 hours on the clock, the AR250 is used to maintain the semi-rough and surrounds at the 6,356 yard, par 72 course.

Gary Comett is the head greenkeeper and manages a team of six full time staff, two seasonal staff and a gardener. He has been a member of Jacobson’s requirement for the past 13 years and has worked in Ireland, China and UK. He has a Foundation degree in Turfgrass Science from Myerscough College. Commenting on the AR250, he said: “We have a huge area of maintained grass, including the grounds of the hotel, so it’s vitally important that we get maximum productivity and reliability from our mowing equipment. And, that’s exactly what we get from the AR250. It’s reliable, quick to set up and the quality of the finish is superb, even when handling large volumes of grass in wet conditions. “Our 11th hole is adjacent to the hotel, so it’s important that the presentation is always at its best. “The rear rollers on the AR250 produce a pleasing striped finish, providing a manicured view from the guests’ bedrooms and hotel restaurant.”

**NEXT GEN GOLF CARTS**

Next-generation golf cart technology has reached Ryder Cup venue The Celtic Manor Resort, with the news that it is the latest golf club to tag its cart fleet with DSG TAG’s GPS tracking devices.

The tags, fitted last month to 20 petrol-driven Club cars on The Twenty Ten Course, are designed to help improve pace of play, and to improve the quality of the Twenty Ten experience for customers. Each cart has also been fitted with a DSG TAG TOUCH screen along with the GPS tag.

“Golfers on The Twenty Ten Course can now upgrade their cart to a DSG TAG model,” says Golf Operations Manager Matt Barnby. “Buggies are restricted to the cart paths at Celtic Manor, but our new TOUCH screens give golfers an exact yardage while setting in their cart – removing the need to take two or three clubs onto the fairway.”

DSG TAG has also created geo-zones which control where the Twenty Ten carts can and cannot be driven, including a geo-fence around the entire Celtic Manor Resort estate to ensure that golf buggies are not driven off the property. Golfers are first alerted by a buzzer and on-screen messages, and the cart is automatically immobilised if the warnings are ignored.

**ROYAL CROMER GC FIRST TO INSTALL NEW TORO LYNX AND GDC**

Royal Cromer Golf Club in Norfolk has become the first course in the UK to fully upgrade to a state-of-the-art Lynx and GDC Toro Irrigation system.

This windswept links course on the North Norfolk coastline struggled to maintain coverage and keep playing surfaces up to par as its previous 35-year-old irrigation system reached the end of its useful life.

Numerous man hours were also being wasted at Royal Cromer as the greenskeeping team hand-watered and nursed the ailing system, while water was lost through leaks and inefficient application.

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Wessex ProLine RMX roller mowers have been setting new standards in roller mower design for many years. Now the new triple deck mowers offer the ultimate in wide area mowing, with the significant advantages of cost-efficiency without compromising cut finish quality.

All the features and benefits of the widely used Wessex ProLine RMX range have been incorporated into one triple deck machine, to reduce mowing time and increase output and profitability. Requiring no electro-hydraulics, and with no electric clutches, these professional roller mowers will leave a finish equal to a cylinder mower on fine turf, at a fraction of the cost.

The patented transmission system allows wings to be engaged and disengaged whilst in work, without a clutch mechanism. They offer versatility too. With independent wing control they are operational with one wing lifted and the folding wings can cut gradients from -30° to +30° with the middle deck remaining on the ground.

All the decks have independent flap and the patented linkage system allows the rear deck to follow the direction of travel, to minimise tyre and roller scuffing. Tyre pressures are also used for minimum ground compaction and independent suspension is incorporated for smooth road travel.

Each deck on the triple mower has full width rollers at the front and rear that restrict airflow, creating a suction beneath the deck chamber in which the uncut grass is sucked up by the blades, leaving a superb quality cut at high speeds.

There are double taper roller bearings in all rollers and they also strip the grass for a premium finish. The RMX triple mowers are available in 5.6m and 6.8m working widths and, as with all the RMX roller mowers, servicing and maintenance is easy, substantially reducing costs compared to an equivalent width cylinder mower. They will be available for delivery in spring 2013.

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Gary Cotterill is the head greenkeeper and manages a team of six full time staff, two seasonal staff and a gardener. He has been a manager of golf course requirements for the past 13 years and has worked in Ireland, China and UK. He has a Foundation degree in Turfgrass Science from Myerscough College. Commenting on the AR250, he said: “We have a huge area of maintained grass, including the grounds of the hotel, so it’s vitally important that we get maximum productivity and reliability from our mowing equipment. And that’s exactly what we get from the AR250. It’s reliable, quick to set up and the quality of the finish is superb, even when handling large volumes of grass in wet conditions.”

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The Celtic Manor Resort operates a fleet of 140 Club Cars in total.

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