Ransomes realignment:  
Brouwer manufacturing operation moves in with Ohio-based Steiner Turf Equipment

Ransomes America Corporation has announced the transfer of manufacturing operations at Brouwer Turf Equipment, Ltd., in Keswick, Ontario, to the manufacturing plant of Steiner Turf Equipment, Inc. in Orrville, Ohio.

The transfer should be completed by mid-1993, according to Ransomes officials.

Brouwer will continue to maintain a marketing and service office in Keswick. The firm’s products include sod harvesting machines. The company, which has 50 employees, has been manufacturing equipment associated with the sod harvesting industry since 1972.

"The sales volume of these products, in relation to the large manufacturing plant, could not justify the continued operation of the current facility," explained Ransomes President Irv Aal. "This transfer will provide the manufacturing efficiencies required to remain cost competitive in today's environment."

Headquartered in Minneapolis, Ransomes America has manufacturing facilities in Lincoln, Neb.; Edgewater, Fla.; and Johnson Creek, Wis. These plants, which manufacture the Cushman, Ransomes and Ryan product brands, are not affected by the Brouwer-Steiner transfer.

"This transfer of manufacturing operation," Aal added, "has been designed to ensure that our service to our dealers and customers will continue without interruption during this transition."

Pre-emption law

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equally clearly why state pre-emption is needed.

On pages six and seven of his memorandum, Judge Haas writes, "While the Township of Mantrap seeks to protect the environment by its Ordinance, such an ordinance, were it to be enforced in this Township and others with the state of Minnesota, could create a patchwork of regulations making it practically impossible to meet disasters and resolve them."

Haas cites Dutch Elm Disease and gypsy moth infestation as examples.

While the golf industry is not as concerned with fighting agricultural disease on a statewide scale, the "patchwork of regulations" would make life very difficult for golf courses that straddle town boundaries; and for developers looking to create golf course communities located in more than one municipality.

Further, the prospect a single town banning an EPA-approved chemical remains a possibility in states without pre-emption legislation.

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