Gas golf cars may get 2-year reprieve in Calif.

By HAL PHILLIPS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The official word from the California Air Resources Board (ARB) is this: No decision has been made on the classification of gas-powered golf cars; more specifically, when they will be banned.

Gas-powered golf cars will be phased out in California — the question is "When?" — but the impact on the environment is expected from the ARB sometime this month, according to an ARB spokesman. However, unnamed sources inside the California bureaucracy have indicated board members are leaning toward a two-year extension of the deadline. This would mean elimination of gas-powered cars would be required by Jan. 1, 1997, as opposed to the previous deadline: Jan. 1, 1995. [According to the National Golf Car Manufacturers Association, there are approximately 14,000 gas-powered golf cars employed in California.]

This extension would mark a change of heart from the ARB — but both sides have changed their respective minds and positions in the four years this issue has been debated. In 1990, NGCMA successfully petitioned to be classified outside "first-tier" regulations, which apply to lawns and garden equipment. In 1991, when gas-powered golf cars would be regulated more harshly than "first-tier" vehicles, the NGCMA reversed itself and petitioned again for "first-tier" status. As late as 1992, NGCMA was under the impression the ARB would, indeed, grant golf cars "first-tier" status. However, in August 1992, ARB suggested a Jan. 1, 1995, deadline for the elimination of gas-powered golf cars, whereas "first-tier" vehicles remain in service until Jan. 1, 1998.

The Jan. 1, 1997 deadline — should it come to pass — would be a compromise. Industry executives and air-quality bureaucrats agree gas-powered golf cars will eventually be banned in California. However, until ARB renders a decision, the question remains, "When?"

GCSAA limits role in Asia

By HAL PHILLIPS

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has opted for a lesser role in Golf Asia '94, leaving Connex Private Ltd. and the International Management Group (IMG) to manage the exhibition and trade show on their own.

According to IMG spokesman Bart Collins, much of the status quo remains: GCSAA will conduct the golf course maintenance seminars prior to the Singapore trade exhibition. However, the program will be less elaborate than originally planned, he said, and the association will not be involved in show management.

"I think the association has a little more insight about what our mission is over there," explained Randy Nichols, GCSAA president. "We, as an association, feel it's very important we continue our mission of educating people over there...And for our vendors, we feel it is very important to offer these sessions to draw people in to look at their products."

"But last year our education program lost some money over there. We probably offered too much."

NG, HAYES JOIN ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

CALABASAS, Calif. — Arnold Ng and James Hayes have both joined Environmental Care Inc. Ng was appointed national sales manager overseeing the sales and marketing programs division. Hayes is now responsible for the development and expansion of the water management programs division. Ng has 12 years of professional sales and marketing experience at Xerox, Xerox Learning Systems, and The Klinh Company. Hayes brings national operations and marketing experience from firms such as the Steiner Corp., Community Linen Services, where he was vice president and partner, and Corporate Video Services, of which he was president.

MIDGETT JOINS BRIDGE BUILDERS

FRANKLIN, N.C. — Ken Midgett has joined the staff at Bridge Builders, a division of Fox Lake Construction. Midgett, who has been involved in all phases of golf course construction during his career, will oversee all construction activities for Bridge Builders. For more information, call 1-800-874-9403.

CURALAN GETS CALIFORNIA EPA OK

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Curalan fungicide, a product of BASF Specialties Products, has received registration for use in California from the state's Environmental Protection Agency. Curalan, with the active ingredient vinclozolin, is labeled for use on all turfgrasses and ornamentals. It is designed to prevent and control dollar spot, brown spot, leaf spot, pink and gray snow mold, red thread, pink patch and melting out.

E-Z-GO, BRUEDAN JOIN FORCES

CHESTER, N.J. — E-Z-GO Textron, the golf car/utility vehicle manufacturer based in Augusta, Ga., and Bruedan Corp., one of the largest golf car distributors in the nation, have reached a distribution agreement that will cover much of the Northeast United States. Bruedan will now represent E-Z-GO in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and parts of New York. Bruedan has sales and service locations in Bolton, Conn., Swansea, Mass., and its headquarters here.

POST FALLS, Idaho — Jacklin Seed Co. has introduced JacklinGolf, a service and technical support team dedicated to the needs of golf course architects, builders and authorized distributors.

JacklinGolf's specially trained staff is made up of turfgrass specialists and research personnel, all dedicated to providing expertise and technical support necessary to assist with any golf course turfgrass decision or problem. The service can be accessed by calling 1-800-760-4321.

Company names are in bold. Suburban names are in italics.
GCSAA diminishes role at Golf Asia '94

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Nichols noted that his organization has closed its Asia-Pacific office in Singapore. The GCSAA, however, will continue to associate itself with Golf Asia through solicitation of its client base in the United States. GCSAA has also agreed to organize a consolidated shipment of exhibitor material to Golf Asia '94, following its trade show in Dallas next January.

"We want to have a relationship with GCSAA," said Collins, who works from the IMG office in Singapore. "But it's out of our hands. Randy Nichols felt the association needs to get back to basics."

"The market here, which includes Golf Asia, is still evolving. It wasn't all that long ago that GCSAA was prepared to go it alone in the region. At least we've succeeded in consolidating the two shows."

Indeed, GCSAA held a separate, competitive trade show in Singapore a week prior to Golf Asia '93 in March. But soon after Connex and IMG jointly formed Golf Asia Exhibitions Ltd in May, GCSAA signed a long-term supply agreement with Wis-Con, Inc., manufacturer of low-horsepower engines based in Japan, has severed its North American distribution agreement with Wis-Con Total Power Corp., effective Nov. 13, 1993. A new company, Robin America Inc., will market Fujti's low-horsepower gasoline and air-cooled diesel engines through current and newly appointed distributors. Da Heung Co. Ltd. has taken Fuji's place, reaching a long-term supply agreement with Wis-Con.

WIS-CON HAS NEW ASIAN PARTNER

Fujti Heavy Industries Ltd., a manufacturer of low-horsepower engines based in Japan, has severed its North American distribution agreement with Wis-Con Total Power Corp., effective Nov. 13, 1993. A new company, Robin America Inc., will market Fujti's low-horsepower gasoline and air-cooled diesel engines through current and newly appointed distributors. Da Heung Co. Ltd. has taken Fujti's place, reaching a long-term supply agreement with Wis-Con.

Golf Asia Notebook

Golf Course News official publication for March '94 show

SINGAPORE — Golf Course News Asia-Pacific has once again been named the official golf publication of Golf Asia '94, the region's largest golf exhibition and conference, scheduled for March 23-27, here at the International Merchandise Mart.

Golf Course New Asia-Pacific was also official publication of Golf Asia '93. It will serve in a similar capacity at the Pan Asia Golf Conference, Nov. 22-23, 1993, in Hong Kong.

Information can also be sent to the United States office, 38 Lafayette St., Yarmouth, ME, 04096. Telephone: 207-846-0600, fax — 207-846-0657.

raw indoor exhibit space at Golf Asia '94 is $490 per square meter. Minimum booking for raw space is 24 square meters. The indoor exhibit space and shell scheme rate is $490 per square meter. Minimum booking for the shell scheme is 12 square meters.

More details and booking information contact Show Manager Connex Private Ltd. in Singapore by phone at 290-6901; or by fax at 293-5628.

According to Catherine Mahoney, manager of Export Promotion Services at the United States Department of Commerce, there are 157 golf courses under construction or in the pipeline to be completed by the year 2000.

Within the next four years, she said, the potential golf course development market will be estimated at US$8 billion.

Synthetic Industries adds production line

RINGGOLD, Ga. — To meet the rapidly growing demand for its nonwoven geotextile, Synthetic Industries Inc., has installed a second polypropylene production line in its recently completed plant here.

Opened in 1992, this modern manufacturing facility, with its state-of-the-art equipment, now has doubled production capacity of its needle punched, non-woven polypropylene geotextiles. This broad line is engineered for use as liner cushions, subsurface drainage systems, asphalt roadway overlays, and erosion control involving rock rip rap. Synthetic Industries' Construction Products Division also manufactures and markets a full line of woven geotextiles and a full line of erosion and sediment control products.

LANDCADD software offered on IBM RISC

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Golf course designers and land planners can now choose LANDCADD's environmental software currently available on IBM's newly announced RISC System/6000 models using PowerPC Technology. LANDCADD has announced it will port its software products to the IBM RISC Systems/6000 platform.

Many federal agencies are standardized on the IBM RISC System/6000 as it is a POSIX compliant operating system. This agreement will allow these government entities and future LANDCADD customers to use LANDCADD and AutoCAD software on a state-of-the-art available workstation in the industry.

The agreement and technical developments between LANDCADD and IBM were unveiled at the UNIX Expo in New York City in September.

Lesco earns spot in Platinum Tee Club

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Lakeshore Equipment Supply Company, better known as Lesco, Inc., has donated $5,000 to match the "seed" gift made by the GCSAA board of directors when the association established the Emergency Assistance Fund.

The fund was created to provide emergency assistance to GCSAA members who have suffered personal losses as a result of natural disasters. The fund was prompted by the recent Midwest flooding, but will remain a permanent source of assistance.

With the gift, Lesco becomes the newest member of the GCSAA Platinum Tee Club, a group of companies, golf clubs and golf associations that contribute $5,000 or more annually to help fund GCSAA S&R operations. Last year, Platinum Tee Club members contributed more than $200,000 in support of GCSAA programs. Lesco will be honored for the contribution during the 1994 GCSAA International Educational Conference and Show in Dallas in February. Donations should be sent to: Disaster Relief Fund, GCSAA Development Department, P.O. Box 927, Lawrence, KS 66049-0927.