**GCSAA sponsorships continue to mount**

**By Hal Phillips**

**Lawrence, Kan.** — The Golf Course Superintendent’s Association of America (GCSAA) has reached an agreement with Jacobsen, E-Z-GO and Textron Financial Corp., all divisions of Textron, for a multi-year exclusive sponsorship of the association’s annual banquet and show.

GCSAA President Joseph G. Baidy said the agreement marks the type of partnership established as one of the central goals in GCSAA’s strategic plan for future development of member support.

Textron’s bouquet sponsorship is the most recent example of golf course industry firms partnering with the GCSAA organization through financial backing.

The association’s trade show and conference — scheduled this year for Feb. 20-27, in San Francisco — has been the primary sponsorship target.

For example, The Toro Co. has entered a long-term agreement to sponsor the GCSAA member golf tourney; Giba Turf and Oramentals International will co-sponsor the International Lounge; Toro and International Seed will co-sponsor interpreting services for the show’s overseas guests; and Parnsell Industries/J.R. Simplot Co. will sponsor a reception following Rocky Bleier’s keynote address.

However, GCSAA has also made it clear that in-house research and organization functions are fair game. Through

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**Putting test results to the test**

**By Gary Ellertson**

Acquiring data on any riding mower is difficult because the recording equipment must be portable and impervious to grass, dirt and water.

During the development of the LF3810, Jacobsen used the standard 2100 Field Computer System (FCS) from SoMat Corp. of Champaign, Ill. The FCS is a small, portable data acquisition system impervious to the elements, capable of handling multiple channels of data and of being downloaded to a laptop computer in the field. The system’s ability to collect multiple channels of data simultaneously helped to quickly identify and solve a pressure spike concern in the prototype.

The main testing focus on this mower was determining real speed, pressure, horsepower requirements, operating temperatures, and frame stress under varying duty cycles.

In the past, data acquisition for development projects of this type was accomplished by designing a prototype with a miniature, single-channel, data-logging device. Most turf equipment testing requires multiple-channel acquisition in order to track the effects of important events throughout the various systems. Using a one-channel device made it necessary to repeat events several times, each time connecting the logger to a different sensor.

This took large amounts of time and detracted from accuracy because once a swath was cut, it couldn’t be repeated — and no two swaths are exactly alike.

After investigating multiple-channel data acquisition alternatives, Jacobsen found a number of portable multiple-channel data-acquisition devices but all were too large to fit on riding turf equipment. Further, they weren’t rugged enough

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**Public offering aids Aquagenix expansion**

**By Darrell Blackall**

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Newly capitalized Aquagenix, Inc. has acquired the lake management division of Mitigation Services, Inc., an affiliated company of Jacksonville-based Environmental Services, Inc.

The sale price was approximately $250,000 in cash and notes, said Andrew P. Chesler, president of Environmental Waterway Management, an Aquagenix subsidiary.

According to terms of the contract, Aquagenix will acquire a portfolio of service contracts in a six-county area covering northern Florida and southeastern Georgia; assume an office warehouse lease in southern Jacksonville’s Phillips Industrial Park; and purchase aquatic equipment.

Once the acquisition is completed, the new Jacksonville office of Environmental Waterway will be run by Darrell Blackall, former head of aquatic management programs for the St. Johns River Water Control District.

Aquagenix has been one of the golf course industry’s busiest firms since going public earlier this year. At last check, the firm had completed its initial public offering of 1.25 million shares of common stock, at $5 per share, and 1.25 redeemable warrants at $1.00 per warrant.