Suppliers and customers are seeking new ways to improve turf and golf course management.

**ADVANTA WEST NAMES NEW GM**
ALBANY, Ore. — Advanta Seeds West has announced the appointment of David Holman as general manager. He will join the firm this month from Plants Genetic Systems (Canada) Inc. and brings with him extensive experience in the overall management of seed and seed-related activities.

**PRIME TURF TO REP STRANTROL 810**
LOCKPORT, Ill. — Prime Turf, the midwestern distributor of the pH-control chemical pHairway, has been named by Stranco as its exclusive representative to the turf industry for the Strantrol 810 pH control system. Stranco's experience in water treatment is substantial, with more than 20,000 pH control systems in use worldwide, including the Strantrol 810, designed specifically for course irrigation systems. The Strantrol 810 is available for immediate shipment worldwide by calling Prime Turf at 708-301-1110.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS...**
Versa-Lok Retaining Wall Systems has moved its headquarters to 6348 Highway 36, Oakdale, Minn. 55128. The firm may now be reached by phone at 1-800-770-4525 or 612-770-3166; by fax at 612-770-4088; or via the Internet at http://www.versa-lok.com.

**NEWMAN JOINS LEBANON TURF**
LEBANON, Pa. — Gary Newman has been named product group manager for Lebanon Turf, a division of Lebanon Seaboard Corp. Newman will be responsible for sales and marketing of Country Club, Country Club 2, Nex-Pro, and IsoTekPro professional turf products. Prior to joining Lebanon, Newman served as product line manager for Vigoro Professional Products of Winter Haven, Fla., where he was responsible for product development, new product introduction, and marketing of Vigoro's ParEx Turf Product line, and as territory manager, where he was responsible for sales of ParEx and Woodace products.

**Ransomes continues sponsorship strategy**
LINCOLN, Neb. — Ransomes has been named an official supplier to the PGA European Tour. Under the agreement, Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan turf equipment becomes a "preferred maintenance product" of the Tour. Additionally, the company's products will be recommended for use at all PGA European Tour venues for the next three years.

The agreement encompasses both the European Tour and European Senior Tour. Combined, both tours hold 50 tournaments, including the British Open Golf Championship and the Volvo PGA Championship.

As a preferred Tour supplier, Ransomes will make equipment available, as required, to help prepare Tour venues prior to all events. Ransomes will also hold special equipment seminars for tournament directors. In addition, the firm will co-sponsor the annual PGA European Tour Greenkeepers Conference and be involved in the presentation of conference sessions and educational papers.

"As a world-class supplier of golf course maintenance equipment, Ransomes is delighted to be extending major support to the tournaments comprising the PGA European Tour," says Ransomes' Group Chief Executive, Peter Wilson. "This agreement further reinforces Ransomes' total commitment to the golf industry, highlighting the renewed confidence being placed in the company and its line of products."

"With St. Andrews, Gleneagles and Pebble Beach already committed exclusively to Ransomes," Wilson concluded, "this latest award demonstrates once again that we now have the full range of equipment."

**EPA amends a pair of worker protection laws**
Monsanto honored for 'green' revisions to Round-Up chemistry

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced plans to ease its regulations in two turf-related areas: the instances when decontamination supplies must be kept at a treated site, and the use of languages other than Spanish on worker notification signs.

The amended regulations will take effect later this month, 60 days after their publication in the Federal Register which took place in late July.

The first amendment, which should affect the sod growing industry, has decreased the number of days — from 30 to 7 — that decontamination supplies (soap, water and paper towels) must be available to workers entering treated fields. This applies only to turf treated with low toxicity pesticides, defined by the EPA as those having a restricted entry interval of four hours or less.

Prior to this amendment, EPA required that decontamination supplies had to be available whenever a worker performed any activity in a pesticide treated area, or where entry had been restricted within the past 30 days.

In the second amendment, which should affect any golf course or business operating in widely bilingual regions, the EPA agreed that employer could replace decontamination signs with another language tailored to suit the tongue most used by workers in that location. The English portion of the sign must remain.

Previously, the EPA allowed only English signs to be used.