

Nedin garners Toro's Top Service award

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Toro's Top Service Achievement Award was presented to Jim Nedin of E.H. Griffith during its annual distributor convention here in December. The award criteria to reach this level is based on performance in customer satisfaction, reporting and working clearly with the manufacturer on continuous product quality improvements, and in product repair and training.

Nedin has been associated with the turf industry for 30 years. He's taught turf equipment seminars for 16 years. For the past 21 years he's been em-

ployed at E.H. Griffith, Inc., in Pittsburgh, Pa., as the service manager for Toro commercial turf equipment.

Nedin is currently serving his second term on Toro's Commercial Service Advisory Board. In 1987 he was the recipient of the prestigious "Mr. Service Award." In 1995 and 1996 he received Toro Top Service Achievement awards.



Jim Nedin

Rain Bird hires Davidson, Seward

ASUZA, Calif. — Rain Bird's Golf Division, manufacturer of irrigation products for golf courses, has hired Dale Anne Davidson as a regional sales manager.

As regional sales manager, Davidson will develop sales of golf course irrigation products throughout an 11-state region in the North Central U.S. Her responsibilities include distributor

sales personnel development and product education of golf course architects, contractors, and irrigation consultants within the sales territory.

Rain Bird's Golf Division has also announced the hiring of Leslie J. Seward as area sales manager. In her new position, Seward is responsible for sales and distributor relations throughout the Southeast. Additionally, she periodically meets with golf course architects, contractors, and irrigation consultants to inform and educate them on the latest Rain Bird product developments.

In other Rain Bird news, the Golf Division has named Irrigation Supply Co., Inc. (ISCO) of Louisville, Ky., as the sole distributor of Rain Bird golf course irrigation products in Kentucky, southern Indiana and Tennessee. Founded in 1962 by Jim Kirchdorfer Sr., ISCO is the oldest irrigation supply company in Kentucky. Today, the distributor employs more than 55 people in ten locations throughout Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri.



Kurt Templeton

TEMPLETON JOINS NETAFIRM

FRESNO, Calif. — Netafirm Irrigation, Inc. has announced the appointment of Kurt Templeton as Northwestern sales manager, Landscape Division. Templeton will cover Northern California, Oregon, Washington, Utah and Idaho. Templeton joins Netafirm after a highly successful career with Makita Power Tools, where he specialized in dealer and distributor sales and support in the Western United States.

Factory stores

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They work with irrigation experts at the course, for example. They work with our account executives, who are financial experts. Then AEs come up with packages that tie it all together.

"We're trying to leverage our people and relationships to the one-stop shop... We're trying to build a system that's self-perpetuating. Today we're still in the infant stages; we've only been up and running for eight months. But it has been embraced here. The customers see we're trying to help them and be sensitive to their time."

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on course costs

By MARK LESLIE

Worried the cost of golf is starting to drive people from the game, the incoming and outgoing presidents of the American Society of Golf Course Architects have presented arguments that would lead developers to make harsh choices about their projects.

Picking sides in a point-counterpoint atmosphere, Past President Jeff Brauer of Golfscapes in Houston and new President Denis Griffiths of Braselton, Ga., agreed construction costs have escalated too high but disagreed over the cure.

"Ten years ago there were few upscale daily-fee projects," Griffiths said. "Everyone today is doing

SENSITIVE STROKES
Architect Ron Carl worked sensitively around wetlands at the newly opened Indian River Club. Located in Vero Beach, Fla., Indian River is only the third course in the world to be granted Audubon Signature status. The course also embodies the Environmental Principles for Golf Courses recently issued at the conference on Golf & The Environment (see page 16).

Griffith.

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