

## California firms combine development forces

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — Kollstar Golf Co., an owner, developer and manager of high-end golf courses, and The Stonebridge Group, a real-estate company specializing in golf course development and construction, have established an alliance to build and acquire high-end, daily-fee courses.

Kollstar and The Stonebridge Group together will construct new courses in high-profile locations, according to Joe Woodard, CEO of Newport Beach-based Kollstar.

Kollstar was formed in February as a joint venture between Koll Resorts International, a member of the Koll family of real

estate companies specializing in planned golf resort communities, and NorthStar Capital Investment Corp., a New York investment banking firm.

The Stonebridge Group, according to Woodard, will use its expertise in both development and construction, combined with its extensive experience and net-

work of local contractors, to act as the building arm for the group's new golf courses.

Jointly, the two companies expect to roll out three to five new courses per year.

"Our goal with this joint venture is to grow Kollstar through the development of championship quality golf courses in high-profile communities," said Woodard. "This alliance with

The Stonebridge Group allows Kollstar to significantly augment its capability to reach this goal."

Based in Salt Lake City, The Stonebridge Group, through its principals, has provided construction, engineering and consultation services on more than 100 golf courses and hundreds of commercial developments throughout the United States.

Many of The Stonebridge Group's golf courses have been high-end, daily-fee projects located in the western United States and include such courses as Desert Canyon Golf Course in Columbia, Wash., Wingpointe Golf Course in Salt Lake City, Utah, and The Course at Wente Vineyards, a Greg Norman-designed layout cut out of an active winery in Livermore, Calif.

The key principals of The Stonebridge Group are co-chairmen Earl S. Kemp, Richard A. Haws and, director of development, Gary Stapley.

Kollstar owns, operates and manages five courses in the United States and Mexico. Most recently, KOLLSTAR purchased the 36-hole Tennwood Golf Course facility in Houston. It was repositioned to a high-end, daily-fee facility and renamed Houston Oaks Golf Club.

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CIRCLE #136

## Wash. TPC names Michaelson, Cupit

SNOQUALMIE, WASH. — Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club, a Tournament Players Club course designed by Jack Nicklaus that is scheduled to open next year, has added Arne Michaelson and Mark Cupit to its staff.

In his role as director of golf course operations, Michaelson will be responsible for all golf course operations. He has been overseeing construction of the course since 1997. Michaelson has more than 20 years of development and construction experience, having worked at Canterwood Golf & Country Club (G&CC) in Gig Harbor, Indian Summer G&CC in Olympia and Fircrest Golf Club. He has a bachelor's degree in economics and business administration from Pacific Lutheran University and is a member of the Club Managers Association of America.

Cupit, a certified golf course superintendent, is the new superintendent. He has been in the golf business for more than 30 years, 23 as a superintendent and five as a member of the Professional Golfers Association. Cupit's construction experience includes 12 years at Canterwood, Indian Summer, Fairbanks (Alaska) Country Club and Golden Pebble Beach in Dalian City, Peoples Republic of China.

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