

Environmental Golf

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management and ownership."

Dingman said the goal of Environmental Golf is to continue concentrating on building and maintaining courses and look at ownership deals as they arise.

"Our goal is to do two to three [build and own] situations a year," he added.

Environmental Golf provides specialized maintenance for private and public courses. It has maintenance-only contracts with the following facilities:

Arizona

Estrella Mountain Golf Course (GC), Goodyear

California

Alhambra Municipal GC, Alhambra
Bernardo Heights Country Club (CC), San Diego
Canyon Lake CC, Canyon Lake

Creekside GC, Modesto
DeBell GC, Burbank
Diamond Oaks GC, Roseville
Dryden Park GC, Modesto
Municipal GC, Modesto
Silver Lakes CC, Helendale
Tracy Golf & CC, Tracy
Woodcreek Golf Club,

Roseville

Georgia

Cross Creek Golf Club,

Atlanta

Michigan

Lakes of Taylor, Taylor

North Carolina

Birkdale GC, Huntersville

South Carolina

Oyster Reef Golf Club,

Hilton Head

While Environmental Golf has offered maintenance-only contracts for two decades, it will also offer full-service management arrangements beginning this year.

Asked what would distinguish Environmental Golf from other management firms, Dingman replied: "Probably our overall resources. We have numerous facilities across the United States, which allows us to maintain courses anywhere geographically. Because of those resources and 2,000 employees on the maintenance side, it allows us to have regional experts, horticulturists, agronomists, extremely high-level people. That probably gives us a technology edge and an ability, through technology, to manage labor and quality."

Environmental Golf's fee schedule is "extremely competitive" with other management firms, Dingman said. "That's still a primary concern of every owner. The quality and other issues are important, but price is still a driving factor."

"Every deal is different," he continued. "We do things from straight management for a fee to packages where we go in

and take over all the employees and buy all the equipment to provide owners with some additional capital at the time we take over the program."

General Manager of Golf Maintenance Alex Marshall heads the golf maintenance division from his Orlando, Fla., office. Dingman leads the overall course management division from Calabassas.

Vegas' Rio casino opens its own course

LAS VEGAS — Rio Hotel & Casino Inc. announced that its subsidiary, Rio Development Company Inc., has opened the Rio Secco Golf Club.

Located in Henderson, approximately 15 minutes south of the Rio Suite Hotel & Casino, the Rio Secco Golf Club is an 18-hole course designed by Rees Jones. The limited-play course

will have at least 15 minutes between tee times, to provide an enjoyable experience for all players.

President James A. Barrett, Jr. said, "The Rio Secco Golf Club was developed by us as an additional amenity for customers of the Rio, a destination resort."

The fee for Rio customers will be \$190 per round, and for others \$300 per round.

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CIRCLE #136