Hunter releases G880

Hunter Industries has released the high-capacity G880, a gear-driven rotor that delivers up to 88 feet of full-circle coverage. It has a pop-up height of three and a half inches and is available in three models: electric-regulated, electric-three-way and hydraulic. All models include top servicing, snap-in components with no screws or bolts to fumble with. Made of composite material, Quantum valves are the only valves on the market designed with outside inlet threads for extra strength under pressure. A special add-on compact service valve is also available. For more information, contact: 800-491-4973 or www.huntergolf.com.

Rain Bird aims financial offering at renovations

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is geared toward both new course construction and renovation work, Griffee said existing courses will see more benefit.

"There is more benefit to renovation projects because in this case, the deal can be structured based on cash flow rather than collateral or a real estate-based transaction," he said. "As long as you have evidence of solid footing, it is easier to secure financing. We are looking for more of these deals in renovations, giving the landscape of today's market.

To help courses determine what renovation work needs to be done, Rain Bird is also offering irrigation assessment studies that evaluate the irrigation system's capabilities. The resulting renovation plan takes into account the course's budget and performance goals.

The financing program can also be tailored to each individual course's needs.

"If seasonality is an issue, the payment schedule can be altered to reflect the months of the course's operation," said Griffee. "If a member-owned course wants to assess some members while offering a monthly payment plan to others, this too can be accommodated.

The financing deal can also be extended beyond the irrigation system to other hard and soft costs, including labor associated with renovation work, or even new mowing equipment.

Griffee said the financing option is an important offering for the company because "it makes the renovation decision easier for courses. "Competition has never been more intense than it is today," he said. "And the rate of new golf courses will probably continue to decline in the next couple years. However, we realize that today's golf course managers are challenged with keeping good playing conditions. Since irrigation plays such a critical role in maintaining the course's needs through specialists."