ERIC PETERS WINS A SET OF CALLAWAY IRONS COURTESY OF MGCSA AFFILIATES

Green Expo Booth Challenge
Rewards Vendors and Members

The 18-hole Booth Challenge at this year’s Green Expo was well-received by the 19 participating MGCSA affiliates. This event was designed to promote more traffic to trade show booths. Members picked up a scorecard at the MGCSA booth and those that made it to all participating vendors' booths would be eligible for the prize drawing.

Eric Peters, Superintendent at North Links Golf Course, was the recipient of a set of Callaway golf irons courtesy of MGCSA affiliate members who participated in the Booth Challenge at this year’s Green Expo at the Minneapolis Convention Center January 5, 6 and 7. Eric was also elected to the Board of Directors at the MGCSA Annual Business Meeting on January 6.

Also receiving prizes were Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Heritage Links Golf Course, who was awarded a $300 gift certificate, and Javier Diaz, Indian Hills Golf Club, won a $200 certificate.

“In all the shows we’ve exhibited at, we have never had so many Superintendents stop by our booth than we had this year. I’m sure it was directly attributed to the Booth Challenge.”

— Jay Hudson
Glenn Rehbein Companies

Thanks to the Following Participating “Booth Challenge” Companies

BASF
Brock White Company
Dow AgroSciences
FMX Turf
Glenn Rehbein Companies
GreenImage, LLC
Hydrologic
LESCO, Inc.
Minnesota Valley Wholesale
MTI Distributing, Inc.
Plaisted Companies
ProSource One
Renaissance Fertilizers, Inc.
S & S Tree & Horticultural Specialists, Inc.
Superior Tech Products
Sustane Natural Fertilizer of America, Inc.
Tee Shot Marketing
Turf Supply Co.
Twin City Seed Co.

Newly-elected Board member Eric Peters was the recipient of a set of Callaway Irons for participating in the MGCSA’s affiliate booth challenge at the Minnesota Green Expo in early January.
If you have lower back pain, you are not alone. Nearly everyone at some point has back pain that interferes with work, routine daily activities or recreation. Americans spend at least $50 billion each year on low back pain, the most common cause of job-related disability and a leading contributor to missed work. Back pain is the second most common neurological ailment in the United States - only headache is more common. Fortunately, most occurrences of low back pain go away within a few days. Others take much longer to resolve or lead to more serious conditions.

Acute or short-term low back pain generally lasts from a few days to a few weeks. Most acute back pain is mechanical in nature - the result of trauma to the lower back or a disorder such as arthritis. Pain from trauma may be caused by a sports injury, work around the house or in the garden, or a sudden jolt such as a car accident or other stress on spinal bones and tissues. Symptoms may range from muscle ache to shooting or stabbing pain, limited flexibility and/or range of motion, or an inability to stand straight.

Occasionally, pain felt in one part of the body may “radiate” from a disorder or injury elsewhere in the body. Some acute pain syndromes can become more serious if left untreated.

Chronic back pain is measured by duration - pain that persists for more than three months is considered chronic. It is often progressive and the cause can be difficult to determine.

What Structures Make up the Back?

The back is an intricate structure of bones, muscles and other tissues that form the posterior part of the body’s trunk, from the neck to the pelvis. The centerpiece is the spinal column, which not only supports the upper body’s weight but houses and protects the spinal cord - the delicate nervous system structure that carries signals that control the body’s movements and convey its sensations. Stacked on top of one another are more than 30 bones - the vertebrae - that form the spinal column, also known as the spine. Each of these bones contains a roundish hole that, when stacked in register with all the others, creates a channel that surrounds the spinal cord. The spinal cord descends from the base of the brain and extends in the adult to just below the rib cage. Small nerves (“roots”) enter and emerge from the spinal cord through spaces between the vertebrae. Because the bones of the spinal column continue growing long after the spinal cord reaches its full length in early childhood, the nerve roots to the lower back and legs extend many inches down the spinal column before exiting. This large bundle of nerve roots was dubbed by early anatomists as the cauda equina, or horse’s tail. The spaces between the vertebrae are maintained by round, spongy pads of cartilage called intervertebral discs that allow for flexibility in the lower back and act much like shock absorbers throughout the spinal column to cushion the bones as the body moves. Bands of tissue known as ligaments and tendons hold the vertebrae in place and attach the muscles to the spinal column.

What Causes Lower Back Pain?

As people age, bone strength and muscle elasticity and tone tend to decrease. The discs begin to lose fluid and flexibility, which decreases their ability to cushion the vertebrae.

Pain can occur when, for example, someone lifts something too heavy or over stretches, causing a sprain, strain or spasm in one of the muscles or ligaments in the back. If the spine becomes overly strained or compressed, a disc may rupture or bulge outward. This rupture may put pressure on one of the more than 50 nerves rooted to the spinal cord that control body movements and transmit signals from the body to the brain. When these nerve roots become compressed or irritated, back pain results.

Low back pain may reflect nerve or muscle irritation or bone lesions. Most low back pain follows injury or trauma to the back, but pain may also be caused by degenerative conditions such as arthritis or disc disease, osteoporosis or other bone diseases, viral infections, irritation to joints and discs, or congenital abnormalities in the spine. Obesity, smoking, weight gain during pregnancy, stress, poor physical condition, posture inappropriate for the activity being performed and poor sleeping position also may contribute to low back pain. Additionally, scar tissue created when the injured back heals itself does not have the strength or flexibility of normal tissue. Buildup of scar tissue from repeated injuries eventually weakens the back and can lead to more serious injury.

Occasionally, low back pain may indicate a more serious medical problem. Pain accompanied by fever or loss of bowel or bladder control, pain when coughing, and progressive weakness in the legs may indicate a pinched nerve or other serious condition. People with diabetes may have severe back pain or pain radiating down the leg related to neuropathy. People with these symptoms should contact a doctor (Continued on Page 13)
My Aching Back –
(Continued from Page 12)

immediately to help prevent permanent
damage.

Can Back Pain be Prevented?

Recurring back pain resulting from
improper body mechanics or other non-
traumatic causes is often preventable. A
combination of exercises that don’t jolt or
strain the back, maintaining correct pos-
ture, and lifting objects properly can help
prevent injuries.

Many work-related injuries are caused
or aggravated by stressors such as heavy
lifting, contact stress (repeated or constant
contact between soft body tissue and a
hard or sharp object, such as resting a
wrist against the edge of a hard desk or
repeated tasks using a hammering
motion), vibration, repetitive motion and
awkward posture. Applying ergonomic
principles - designing furniture and tools
to protect the body from injury - at home
and in the workplace can greatly reduce
the risk of back injury and help maintain a
healthy back. More companies and home-
builders are promoting ergonomically
designed tools, products, workstations
and living space to reduce the risk of mus-
culoskeletal injury and pain.

The use of wide elastic belts that can be
tightened to “pull in” lumbar and abdomi-
nal muscles to prevent low back pain
remains controversial. A landmark study
of the use of lumbar support or abdominal
support belts worn by persons who lift or
move merchandise found no evidence that
the belts reduce back injury or back pain.
The two-year study, reported by the
National Institute for Occupational Safety
and Health (NIOSH) in December 2000,
found no statistically significant difference
in either the incidence of workers’ com-
ensation claims for job-related back
injuries or the incidence of self-reported
pain among workers who reported they
wore back belts daily compared to those
workers who reported never using back
belts or reported using them only once or
twice a month.

Although there have been anecdotal
case reports of injury reduction among
workers using back belts, many compa-
nies that have back belt programs also
have training and ergonomic awareness
programs. The reported injury reduction
may be related to a combination of these
or other factors.

Quick Tips to a Healthier Back

Following any period of prolonged
inactivity, begin a program of regular low-
impact exercises. Speed walking, swim-
moving or stationary bike riding 30 minutes
a day can increase muscle strength and
flexibility. Yoga can also help stretch and
strengthen muscles and improve posture.
Ask your physician or orthopedist for a
list of low-impact exercises appropriate
for your age and designed to strengthen
lower back and abdominal muscles.
+ Always stretch before exercise or
other strenuous physical activity.
+ Don’t slouch when standing or sit-
ting. When standing, keep your weight
balanced on your feet. Your back supports
weight most easily when curvature is
reduced.
+ At home or work, make sure your
work surface is at a comfortable height
for you.
+ Sit in a chair with good lumbar sup-
port and proper position and height for
the task. Keep your shoulders back.
Switch sitting positions often and periodi-
ically walk around the office or gently
stretch muscles to relieve tension. A pil-
low or rolled-up towel placed behind the
small of your back can provide some lum-
bar support. If you must sit for a long
period of time, rest your feet on a low
stool or a stack of books.
+ Wear comfortable, low-heeled
shoes.
+ Sleep on your side to reduce any
curve in your spine. Always sleep on a
firm surface.
+ Ask for help when transferring an
ill or injured family member from a
reclining to a sitting position or when
moving the patient from a chair to a bed.
+ Don’t try to lift objects too heavy for
you. Lift with your knees, pull in your
stomach muscles, and keep your head
down and in line with your straight back.
Keep the object close to your body. Do not
twist when lifting.
+ Maintain proper nutrition and diet
to reduce and prevent excessive weight,
especially weight around the waistline
that taxes lower back muscles. A diet with
sufficient daily intake of calcium, phos-
phorus and vitamin D helps to promote
new bone growth.
+ If you smoke, quit. Smoking reduces
blood flow to the lower spine and causes
the spinal discs to degenerate.

(Editor’s Note: This article was prepared
by the Office of Communications and Public
Liaison, National Institute of Neurological
Disorders and Stroke National Institutes of
Health, Bethesda, MD 20892.)

Modifying Truckster
Tailgate Simplifies
Depositing Gravel
At Dacotah Ridge

Over time heavy rain events had
taken their toll on the bunkers at
Dacotah Ridge. The resulting con-
tamination from the sub grade with
fines and silt reached a point that the
water would not pass through to the
tile very readily, leaving us with
water hazards. Have you heard that
story before? You’ve probably been
there, done that.

In late fall we went in and
removed the sand a couple feet on
each side of the trench then removed
the pea gravel and the tile. After the
tile was cleaned it was replaced
along with the gravel. The staff dis-
cussed and came up with an idea for
depositing gravel in the trenches.
The truckster, with the modified tail-
gate, would simply drive along and
fill in the trench. The tailgate is a 2 x
12 with a 4-inch hole. The flow of
gravel is easily monitored by the
angle of the dump bed and the piv-
oting gate located on the outside of
the tailgate. This simple modifica-
tion saved a lot of backs and labor
hours. It worked slick. Give it a try if,
I mean when you do your next
drainage project.

-- Mike Nelson
Dacotah Ridge Golf Club.
After the installation is complete, we'll be there to help you maintain the quality of your entire system—from central controls to sprinkler heads. Rain Bird knows that a successful renovation includes quality products, excellent service, and a complete commitment to our customers.

So choose Rain Bird, relax, and renovate with confidence.
The 2005 Minnesota Green Expo was quite an event by anyone's standards. Exact figures are still being developed. However, some facts and numbers can be reliably reported. Over 7,000 people attended this year's event in Minneapolis. Over 100 educational sessions were offered during the three days of the Expo featuring speakers from various universities, companies and other governmental agencies from around the country.

Pre-Expo workshops were held in the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Tuesday before the Expo. Three of these had great attendance and feedback forms indicate that attendees were very excited about the content and presentation of the workshop they attended.

The trade show filled two domes in the Minneapolis Convention Center. There were 377 companies occupying the equivalent of 881 booth spaces. That is the maximum that the two domes being used can accommodate. Even with that number of spaces available there was a waiting list of companies that either wanted to exhibit or companies that requested more space than they were currently occupying. In addition to the Trade Show displays, the University of Minnesota filled the lobby area in front of Exhibit Hall E, non-profits occupied the isle on the second level and Association booths were on display behind the registration area in the lobby area of Exhibit Hall D. In total there were 901 exhibits located throughout the show in addition to the University display area.

This year there were several changes made in order to offer additional or different opportunities or events. Some of these were very successful. Others were not. As the Joint Programming Board meets next month to start refining offerings and schedules for the 2006 Expo, these will be addressed individually. The Wednesday All-Industry Reception was moved from the trade show floor to the Ballroom. This change of location was in response to a number of exhibitor requests. A survey of both exhibitors and attendees is currently being conducted to determine if this will be continued next year. The always popular Casino Night on Thursday was changed to Carnival Night featuring a state fair atmosphere. This change was made in an attempt to not have attendees experience "burn-out" due to having the same offering too many years in a row. Again, surveys are being conducted to determine which offering is preferred or what other options might be of interest to attendees.

The Keynote Speaker, Mike McKinley, kicked off the Expo in rousing fashion. Those of you who attended this session were treated to a great presentation of inspiration, relationship building and attitude suggestions. Nearly 1,300 people gave McKinley a "Standing O" at the end of his presentation. Following the Keynote there were nine educational sessions offered in the following hour on a wide variety of topics including pavers in the landscape, PGR's, tree planting options, Poa/bent competition, Turf "101" and others. The only negative comment that I've received about the educational sessions throughout the three days was "there were so many good things offered I couldn't get to everything I wanted to attend." That is quite a testimonial to the quality of the program that was offered and is an awfully good "problem" to have!

Plans are already well underway for the 2006 Expo. There will be a major change that will be noticeable immediately when exhibitors and attendees arrive. The Expo Trade Show is moving to Halls B and C. This will result in several major improvements. First, it will provide an additional 20,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space so that current exhibitors wanting to expand their displays can do so. In addition it will allow new companies who are on the waiting list to be accommodated. In addition, the non-profits and associations will be provided better visibility in a new location. Also the University of Minnesota display area will have much better traffic flow due to a new location.

(Continued on Page 18)
**Products Showcased by Affiliates At the 2005 Minnesota Green Expo**

**LESCO**

We at the LESCO booth had introduced a brand new formulation of LESCO FLO. It is called LESCO FLO Ultra. With the LESCO FLO Ultra the rates are the same as the old formulation but the results are a quicker movement to the soil profile with less burn potential and a longer protection of localized dry spots. We had a very good response to the promotion at the booth on this new product.

**Plaisted Companies, Inc.**

The 2005 Minnesota Green Expo was a tremendous success for our company, thanks to the many, many golf course superintendents and staff that visited our booth. We would like to say thanks to the MGCSA Board of Directors for the 18-Hole Challenge that we were invited to participate in for this year's show and hope it will continue in the future.

Many area courses are looking at replacing bunker sand. We had on display three bunker sands: our own natural brown sand with a penetrometer value of 2.2, Fairmount Minerals Best 50-50 Blend off-white bunker sand with a penetrometer value of 2.6 and Fairmount Minerals Signature 100% Crushed white bunker sand with a penetrometer value of 3.0. The 100% crushed sand is the firmest sand on the market.

We also had on display our 5,600 pound retaining wall block called Stone Strong "Big Block" this year. We are the local manufacturer of this block that has a front face of eight feet long by three feet high and three feet deep. We have become licensed to produce Cornell University's "CU Structural Tree Soil." This unique product has been developed to grow healthy trees in a concrete environment.

We also had on display lightweight rooftop garden soils used for garden rooftop applications like underground parking ramps and on high-rise buildings to incorporate green space.

All in all, the Minnesota Green Expo has given our company a wide variety of customer contacts and leads.

**Simpplot Partners**

Simpplot Partners introduced GreenClean Pro, one of the only non-copper based algaecides available on the market today. It is labeled for use on a broad spectrum of algae in a variety of aquatic and surface waters.

The active ingredient is sodium carbonate peroxyhydrate, commonly called percarbonate. Percarbonate is a stabilized peroxoxygen chemistry that acts as a powerful algaecide without harming the environment.

Green CleanPro works through a powerful oxidation reaction. The peroxyoxygen chemistry reacts with natural elements of surface waters, creating hydroxy free radicals. Hydroxyl free radicals are strong oxidizers that destroy algal cell membranes, chlorophyll and unsaturated fatty acids, providing immediate control of algae.

GreenClean Pro is a completely biodegradable organic and is non-hazardous to fish and aquatic life. Additionally, treated waters are permissable to be used without interruption (Zero Hour REI).

The professional strength formula eliminates a broad spectrum of algae on contact and is an integral part of an entire water management system. It can be used by itself, in conjunction with biological products, or in rotation with other algaecides to help maintain clear, algae-free waters. It is designed for use in lakes, ponds and other large bodies of water.

Simpplot Partners can be reached at 651-633-6251 or toll free at 888-828-5354.

**Midwest Putting Greens**

Midwest Putting Greens designs, installs, and services commercial and residential synthetic putting greens, tee lines, and athletic turf. We are the exclusive representative of "Nicklaus Design" synthetic putting greens. From custom designed backyard putting greens, synthetic tee lines and target greens for golf courses, par 3 pitch and putt learning facilities, to football, soccer and lacrosse fields, Midwest Putting Greens can design and install a low maintenance, all weather synthetic turf surfaces that will play consistently season after season.

Vijay Singh, Hale Irwin, Sergio Garcia, Mark Calcavecchia, Karin Koch and 24 other PGA/LPGA professionals use our product for pleasure and practice.

**Golf Landscapes and Sport Surfaces**

Golf Landscapes and Sport Surfaces is an independent dealer interested in acquiring the highest quality products for our customers and installing them in a timely, professional manner. Since 1997 GLSS has been your Midwest leader in synthetic turf sales and installation.

At the Green Expo we exhibited our industry leading SofTrak putting surface and two driving range turfs. Our favorite driving range turfs are SofTee and Country Club. Both are made for hitting surfaces on driving ranges and tee boxes. GLSS has installed all of these products locally including Springhill, The Ponds at Battle Creek, Highland and the new practice facility at Century College to mention a few.

GLSS also provides quality construction and resurfacing of game courts like tennis and baseball.

We offer a variety of surfaces to select from including tiles, turf or paint.

GLSS offers a referral program for superintendents and club pros.

**Cycle Works of Minnesota**

Cycle Works of Minnesota is in its fourth season serving the turf industry, sells liquid organic and food/pharmaceutical grade nutritional soil and turf products. Each year it introduces new products/solutions that will meet the requirements of its customers and enable it to grow as a service provider. In 2004 Cycle Works partnered with Renaissance Fertilizers to offer customers a line of organic granular fertilizers. At Green Expo 2005 Cycle Works introduced three new liquid soil amendment products: Provoke, CBX, and IBA 17. Bio Degrader, a liquid biological thatch degrader was also introduced.

In addition Cycle Works/Renaissance introduced TURF SHIELD the first EPA registered organic granular fungicide. In 2005 Cycle Works also represents Tri-Mountain, a line of high quality work clothing, golf clothing, jackets and fleece products. MGCSA members will receive our deepest discount pricing. Four Tri-Mountain canvas jackets were displayed at Green Expo and were raffled off each day and one was donated to Casino Night. Cycle Works of Minnesota, Jim O'Neil (612-751-0305) and Doug Daniel (612-888-9615).

**Versa-Lok Midwest**

Versa-Lok Midwest distributes a premiere selection of products for stunning outdoor environments. Our two main product lines are Versa-Lok Retaining Wall Systems and Willow Creek Paving Stones. Our display at the Green Expo was built with our popular Weathered series, which gives retaining walls and paving stones a vintage, natural stone appearance. The Versa-Lok Weathered Standard and Weathered Mosaic retaining walls were accompanied by stairs, freestanding walls and columns—all built using Standard wall units, with no specialty pieces required. The walking surface of our booth was covered with Willow Creek paving stones in the Weathered Brickstone and Weathered Cobblestone styles. The landing of the raised stairway was built with Weathered Circlestone paving stones. Both Versa-Lok Retaining Wall Systems and Willow Creek Paving Stones offer golf course managers a whole new world of design possibilities for sprucing up your grounds.

**Natural Shore Technologies Inc.**

Natural Shore Technologies Inc. really enjoyed the chance to display and talk about its wetland and lakeshore restoration products and services at the 2005 Green Expo. We now head into spring 2005 with a continued commitment to supply the highest quality Minnesota native aquatic and wetland plants available on the...
Green Expo Affiliates –
(Continued from Page 16)

market. We will soon be mailing our 2005 products and services catalog. Many of the great Minnesota native plants that we provide are used to naturalize and beautify ponds and wetlands on golf courses and commercial properties. We look forward to assisting you with selecting native plants or designing a shore or wetland restoration project in the coming year.

Olson Power & Equipment Co.

It was a very good turnout at the Minnesota Green Expo, and there were a lot of great looking booths and displays! We are glad to be a part of this show, because our store has a lot of great machinery to offer to this kind of market. Kubota has just introduced the new RTV Utility Vehicle. They still have the innovative "Grand I Series" Tractors (30-50hp) followed by their little brother the "B Series" Tractors (18-30hp). To go with your tractors we have all of the attachments necessary for them, such as Bush Hog and Virmig, just to name a few. For you excavators we sell and rent the Kubota mini excavators, along with Gehl skid steer loader and ASV Posi Track machines.

Hartman Companies

During the Minnesota Green Expo Jeffrey Hartman, the president of Hartman Companies, was elected to the MGCSA Board of Directors. He is looking forward to helping with the growth of the organization. Hartman Companies continues its growth to better serve the Sports Turf Industry with an addition to our high-tech slit drainage system, the purchase of a new Blec Ground Breaker linear aeration system with the attached Blec Sand Master system that installs granular material for drainage. Hartman Companies has also grown with the addition of a new division, Hartman Tree Farm, which specializes in landscaping and irrigation.

Hartman Companies would like to thank our clients for contributing their time and photographs to make our power point presentation at the show a success.

Davis Sun Turf

Jacobsen’s redesigned AR-5 was featured in the Davis Sun Turf booth. The AR-5 is powered by a reliable 59 H.P. Kubota diesel engine for better control and hill climbing capabilities. The 5-22‘’ rotary mower decks are convertible from mulching to side discharge, providing versatility and easy adaptation to operator preference. The AR-5 lift arms are designed to continuously keep the cutting decks in the same vertical plane, allowing decks to float straight up and down independently, delivering improved ground following capabilities over irregular contours. A great feature of the AR-5 tractor is that it uses the same platform as the Jacobsen LF series fairway mowers. By using the same platform as the LF series, the Jacobsen rotary and fairway mowers will have increased parts commonality and share the same operating characteristics, making it easy for operators to move from one machine to the next. If you’d like to learn more about this product or schedule an early spring demo please give your salesman a call. Jay Monson (612-963-4239), Tom Fuller (612-802-3149) or Jeff Churchill (612-309-8285).

MTI Distributing, Inc.

The 2005 Minnesota Green Expo provided an excellent opportunity to demonstrate MTI’s commitment to the Green Industry. “It is not just about product features,” says Butch Greeninger. “We are fortunate to represent quality products, but our customers are sharing with us their ongoing support, training and responsiveness.”

New to the booth this year were Redexim Charterhouse’s Verti-Drain, Lely spreaders and our agronomics partners Andersons and Jacklin Seeds among others. These additions have enhanced our ability to service our customers. These, along with, Toro, Neary, Turfco, National, Flowtronex and Otterbine, allow us to provide our customers with the highest quality service without exception.

MTI is proud to be a most valued resource to our customer, whether it be purchasing new or supporting existing products. We have invested in 20 service bays at our Brooklyn Center facility. We hired and equipped 5 fieldservice technicians. These investments, plus significant process improvements, enabled us to announce the MTI Plus One program. With MTI Plus One all Toro products sold will come with Toro's standard Two-Year Warranty, plus one year of Comprehensive Toro Protection Plus, courtesy of MTI not included in the Minnesota State Contract per bid specifications. This protection is automatically applied to all products purchased after November 1, 2004.

We displayed our full line of professional services. Designed to augment your existing service technicians, these services enable you to focus your technical staff on their areas of expertise and have MTI's experts do the rest. If your technician has more work than time, contact MTI to see how we can help balance the equation.

The Toro Company stepped forward in a big way at the Green Expo by donating a Greensmaster 3150 for a silent auction, conducted by MTI, for the benefit of all of Minnesota's First Tee facilities. 100% of proceeds from this sale (over a $22,000 value) will be divided among these courses who are grooming our next generation of golfers. Please contact MTI with your bid to support the future of golf!

Belgard Paving Stones

Belgard Paving Stones are a tumbled paver with various textures and sizes that give the appearance of natural stone, and are available in an elegant range of styles, patterns and colors. The adaptable line ranges from the large-scale Mega-Bergerac to the versatile Dublin Cobble or the tumbled circle of the
2005 Green Expo—
(Continued from Page 15)

The new space will also give us access to the newer, state-of-the-art meeting rooms. The newer room layout also offers the benefit of vertical movement as opposed to having to walk so far between classrooms. Beginning in 2006 much of the travel between sessions will be via escalators and elevators when moving from one classroom to another. No more having to walk great distances to get to your next educational session. While possibly being on a different floor, most classrooms are within a relatively short distance of the escalators and elevators and the areas to be used have a much more open floor plan.

As mentioned above, plans are already well underway for the 2006 Minnesota Green Expo. The dates will be Wednesday through Friday, January 4 - 6, 2006 with educational sessions and the Trade Show offered on all three days. There will be pre-Expo workshops offered again on Tuesday, January 3, 2006. Pesticide Recertification day will again be on Friday. Again, complete details will be available on the Expo web site, www.mnnesota.greenexpo.com, or you can link to that site through the MTGF web site which is www.mtgf.org. The Minnesota Green Expo is one of the best and largest regional events of its kind. It would not be possible without the support of the many companies that exhibit and sponsor this annual event. Please remember this when it comes time to make your buying decisions for the coming year. Supporting those who support the Expo is the best way to ensure that this event will continue to grow both in size and quality in the coming years. Have a great 2005 and watch for more information on the 2006 Minnesota Green Expo as plans develop.

Lots to see on the Trade Show floor at the Minnesota Green Expo held January 5, 6 and 7 at the Minneapolis Convention Center
Delivering Total Solutions

Programs Tailored to Fit What You Need

Simplot Partners™ representatives have the agronomic expertise to help you put together customized programs to meet your every need. Their local experience is backed by a wide variety of products like GrowthPack™, SurfPack™, NutraPack™ and SoluPack™, all proven performers. Whatever you need, whenever you need it - those are just a few of the extras we provide to help deliver outstanding results.

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