



Industry Update

IN DISGUISE TO REDUCE CO2



Econoplas Limited has launched an innovative drainage system that allows buildings to become part of a stunning skyline and reduce carbon emissions globally.

Situated within the existing range of Aquadyne drainage systems for sports pitches, green spaces, green roof and roof garden products, the new Aquadyne Green Facades transforms almost any surface or structure into a living garden, allowing city workers to breathe more easily.

After undergoing further development, the Aquadyne product can now be erected upon external building walls. This provides a unique vertical drainage system, as well as an opportunity for businesses to show off their creative talents, as various species of plants can be grown on the product, providing a more colourful appeal.

Benefits include: Creates a beautiful, living, cooling, cleansing, green skin to a building; Aquadyne is created using recycled plastic; Lowers the carbon footprint; Reduces thermal loading on buildings; It supports the development of photosynthesis; Increases urban wildlife.

DEALERSHIP NETWORK ENHANCED

Based in Semley near Shaftsbury, E.G. Coles is the new Kubota dealership servicing Wiltshire and the surrounding areas.

With a background of over 30 years trading in the tractor and spares market, the business has gone from strength to strength and E.G. Coles was delighted to expand its offering further with the introduction of the Kubota brand.

The new dealership offers the complete Kubota range from premium domestic ride on mowers to the largest Kubota agricultural tractors, including the all new, class leading GL40 Series of mid range tractors.

E.G. Coles plan to further expand its offering to include Kubota engines and construction equipment.

GA ANNOUNCE SUPPORT FOR NEW GOLF PRO SHOW

The PGA has announced its support of the new Golf Pro Show to be held on October 30 to November 1 at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire.

The three-day event will offer exclusive benefits to PGA members including a designated hospitality area and CPD points available for attending workshops and conference sessions.

The Golf Pro Show will combine a showcase of the entire golf business including equipment, products, training aids and destinations from all over the world. In addition there will be a range of conference sessions and workshops, informal evening networking events, a golf tournament and a range of practice zones for testing new products.

Free for professionals, course owners/ staff and retailers this event is exclusive for trade; however, the final day will be a preview day for the wider golfing community – by invitation only.

For more information visit www.golfproshow.com

BEST NEW PRODUCT AWARD WINNER

The Ransomes HR 3300T out-front rotary mower has won the Turf Professional Best New Turfcare Product Award for 2007.

Specifically designed by Ransomes Jacobsen for the UK and European municipal and contractor markets, the HR 3300T was launched last September.

Voting for the award was via the Turf Professional website and the HR 3300T was the clear winner. The engraved crystal award was presented to Managing Director David Withers recently by Chris Biddle, Managing Editor of Nelson Publishing, the media owner of Turf Professional.

“Better mowing efficiency, more evenly dispersed grass clippings, the ability to cut a wide variety of grass, low maintenance, operator storage, reduced noise and vibration and better operator ergonomics were all areas identified by the VOC research. The design and product development team here at Ransomes Jacobsen have produced a first class mower which has exceeded expectations in all of these areas.

“This award is voted for by people from within the industry, who know what makes a good mower and that makes this award even more special,” said David Withers.



FIRST-EVER BARKOEL COURSE

Barkoel, a new crested hairgrass bred by Barenbrug, has allowed Yorkshire farmer Graham Chapman fulfill his dream of providing top class golfing facilities that everyone can afford. His nine-hole pay-and-play Academy golf course at Towthorpe just outside York opened last year, and is the first ever course to be constructed using Barkoel across most of the playing area.

The course was constructed two years ago by Mr Chapman and his two sons, on mainly light land that had previously grown cereals and grass for livestock. They created features including a large wildlife pond and two raised greens before seeding the entire area with Barenbrug's BAR 40 mixture. As well as Barkoel, this mixture also contains Barcrown, a slender creeping red fescue, and a new drought tolerant hard fescue called Barnova.

The sward was left to establish on its own, with very little inputs and no irrigation.

The resulting fine-leaved sward is dense and very slow growing – reducing the need to mow significantly. During the summer the greens were cut just twice a week down to 5mm. The fairways and roughs were left to grow longer and required even less mowing.

Thatch production has been low so no aeration has been required, and the cultivars have all shown good disease resistance and all-year round colour.

NEW APPOINTMENT

Sherriff Amenity has appointed Lewis Blois as an Amenity Specialist, responsible for sales in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

After leaving school Lewis joined Norwich City Football Club on a three-year apprenticeship and following that on a one-year professional contract.

Lewis said, "I am delighted to be joining Sherriff Amenity and am looking forward to meeting new and existing customers and working to further develop the company's business in East Anglia."

ETESIA EXPANDS UK DEALER NETWORK

Since first launching its ride-on and pedestrian rotary mowers in the UK almost 20 years ago, Etesia has established a path of continual growth. As part of an on-going plan for expansion in this country, the company has recently increased its dealer network.

Sales and service for professional and domestic users in the East Riding and Humberside is strengthened with the appointment of K & M Mowers based near Hull; while new dealer for the Isle of Man, Mowers & Motors, has already moved into top gear selling machines from their winter stock order.

Dorset, West Hampshire and West Wiltshire are now covered by Blandford Forum dealership, C & O Tractors who have not wasted any time in breaking into their local authority and commercial end user markets.

In the Essex area, P Tuckwell Ltd of Ardleigh near Colchester, has taken over an existing territory, selling Etesia's professional and domestic rotary mowers and brushcutters. The company is enjoying great success with their promotion to local authorities and sales representative, Alan Ford has already received an award from Etesia for his outstanding achievements.

FREE SEMINAR

Landscape businesses from across the South West attended a free seminar to learn how training and development can grow their staff and enhance their profitability.

The Get Growing event, held recently at Dillington House, Ilminster, is part of an information campaign developed by Train to Gain, which aims to encourage the environmental and land-based sector to grow by developing their staff.

The event, organised by Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the landscape industry, and Train to Gain, was attended by over 60 businesses from a range of rural industries and highlighted the key business benefits of training.

'SIR' LES FERDINAND SIGNS FOR NEW CLUB

Former England, Tottenham Hotspur and Newcastle United football legend Les Ferdinand has been appointed as an ambassador for Playgolf Northwick Park.

A keen golfer, Les plays regularly at the popular Harrow complex, which features replicas of some of the most famous golf holes in the world and will become London's premier 9-hole golf course this month.

In his new role as ambassador he will make personal appearances at Playgolf Northwick Park and also help to promote Playgolf's other major sports projects in the UK, including its Manchester venue and the Playsport Scotland venture - a £16m golf and multisports complex in East Kilbride, Glasgow.

TOP DEALER REP AWARD

Adrian Gardner's sales expertise has earned him special recognition from Campey Turf Care Systems, having won the company's Top Dealer Rep Award for 2007. Adrian, who is Sales Professional with The Double A Trading Company Ltd of Fife, was presented with his trophy during Harrogate Week in January.

Competition among Campey dealers was intense, and so Adrian's success is a significant achievement, especially as he has only been with Double A for 18 months. During that time he has sold over 25 versatile Dakota Turf Tender machines to golf courses throughout Scotland, among other sales successes.

This is the first time that Campey have presented the Top Dealer Rep Award, which will become an annual event to recognise sales excellence.

