

## Business briefs

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mass and depth in addition to overall plant vitality and visual quality.

Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed. On Sept. 7, NASDAQ halted trading of Eco Soil.

In related news, Ames, Iowa-based Becker Underwood, manufacturer and marketer of Rhizobium inoculants, seed coatings, specialty colorants and other bio-agronomic products, acquired the RhizUp brand of inoculants from Eco Soil Systems.

### **Textron expects loss; signs contract with Meadowbrook**

Textron Inc., parent of Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products, cited the U.S. economic slowdown and the impact of the Sept. 11 terror attacks when it announced it would post a third-quarter loss of about 25 cents a share. The company said it plans to curtail production throughout many of its businesses and will cut 2,500 jobs.

In other company news, Augusta, Ga.-based Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products signed a five-year contract with Meadowbrook Golf and Meadowbrook's subsidiary International Golf Maintenance to be the exclusive provider of golf cars, turf equipment and specialty vehicles at all of Meadowbrook's U.S. facilities.

Meadowbrook Golf is a Florida-based management company that owns, leases, manages or maintains more than 100 golf facilities throughout the United States.

### **Deere completes Century purchase**

Moline, Ill.-based Deere & Co. completed its previously announced purchase of Richton International, parent company of Century Supply.

### **Dow Ag acquires rights to MACH 2**

Indianapolis-based Dow AgroSciences LLC completed acquisition of the outstanding shares of RohMid LLC and its MACH 2 (halofenozide) turf insecticide from BASF.

Last June, Dow AgroSciences acquired a 50 percent interest in RohMid when it purchased Rohm and Haas Company's agricultural chemicals business.

## Industry Players Offer Aid, Condolences After Attack

**S**everal golf course maintenance industry companies and courses were quick to support the nationwide relief effort following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Shortly after the tragedy, Standard Golf announced it was donating profits from the sales of its U.S. golf flags and red, white and blue Royaline flagsticks to the American Red Cross Disaster Fund. The offer is good through Nov. 25.

"Immediately after the terrorist attack, golf courses across the country began showing their patriotism by flying our U.S. golf flags with our red, white and blue flagsticks on their greens," said John Kelly, Standard Golf's marketing director.

Textron and John Deere also offered their support. Textron donated \$100,000 to the American Red Cross fund and equipment.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their loved ones," said Gregory Hyland, chairman and CEO of Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products. "In America, it's no longer business as usual. The business community has rallied to a higher cause."

Textron's OmniQuip and E-Z-GO  
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**John Kelly's company, Standard Golf, is donating profits from sales of its U.S. golf flags and flagsticks to the American Red Cross.**



## Keep Fertilizer in Check

**I**n light of Sept. 11, it's prudent for those who have ammonium nitrate fertilizers in stock to report the amounts and location to authorities. It's possible that these inventories could be stolen and used as potential bomb materials.

Local distributors may be asked to pick up your existing supplies and store them so that the number of locations will be reduced to fewer and more secure warehouses.

Please pay attention to any shipments and deliveries you have pending. While there is no need for panic, we are in a heightened state of awareness and this is just one small way we can do something to eliminate easy access to potentially dangerous materials.

In a related matter, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE) received an inquiry from the U.S. Department of Commerce

about the impact on the pesticide industry of the terrorist attacks and from EPA as to industry security measures against such possible attacks. In late September, an EPA Pesticide/ Chemical Safety Advisory was issued and sent to all pesticide registrants.

The advisory notes that the Office of Pesticide Programs is coordinating with other EPA program areas to encourage pesticide industry groups and facilities to review all security measures during this "heightened state of national alert."

EPA urges pesticide industry members to review the agency's chemical safety alert, "Chemical Accident Prevention: Site Security," posted at [www.epa.gov/swercepp/p-small.htm#alerts](http://www.epa.gov/swercepp/p-small.htm#alerts).

— Joel D. Jackson, *Golfdom* contributing editor and CGCS