vehicles and windows. Any projectiles picked up by the mower are directed down and backwards, creating a safer environment."

Because grass is discharged from the back of the machine, clippings remain on the turf instead of on roadways and sidewalks, according to Engler. This minimizes additional cleanup work and keeps property looking manicured. In addition, the trim edge on both sides of the deck improves productivity, grain management and heavy top dressing incorporation after core aeration.
Contact www.gravely.com.

GreensKeeper Brush Trailer

Broyhill says its gas-powered GreensKeeper Brush Trailer is the solution for fast incorporation of heavy top dressing and turf grain management after core aeration. Soft, pliable bristles are firm enough to do the job without damaging grass plants. Rapid brush rotation contacts grass from all directions, causing turf to stand up.

A 3.75 hp Briggs gas engine (5.5 hp Honda optional) drives rotating brushes, while an electric lift cylinder raises and lowers the brush pan. It can be towed by most vehicles because no hydraulics are required. And since the trailer wheels are in front of the brushes, tire tracks on brushed greens are eliminated.
Contact www.broyhill.com.

ROBO-MOWER

A superintendent gets the full demonstration on the RG3 robotic greens mower and reports back to *Golfdom*.

By Matt Hendren

Last month I had the opportunity to take a trip to Orlando, Fla., to Hawk's Landing Golf Club as the guest of Precise Path Robotics to check out the RG3 robotic greens mower. The RG3 is the industry's only autonomous, robotic greens mower and features what the company describes as the industry's best warranty on any greens mower.

The RG3 is powered by four sealed lead acid batteries that give the mower up to four hours of continuous run time. The cutting unit is a standard 22-inch John Deere unit with three options of bed knives that allow your greens height to be anywhere from a minimum of .078 to .125. The pivoting frame and floating cutting unit permit a full range of motion that allows the cutting unit to follow contours and slopes.

Precise Path robotics has thought of just about everything regarding the RG3 and greens maintenance. Each RG3 is guided by a local positioning system making sure every green will get the same treatment every day, making all your greens consistent day in and day out. The RG3 is also capable of becoming a greens grooming and maintenance tool. Interchangeable cassettes for the mower include an ultra groomer, vibration roller, rotary brush, vibration brush, scarifier, thatchmaster, static brush and star spiker.

The best benefit about the RG3 is the increase in labor efficiency it allows. In today's economy anything a superintendent can do to increase labor efficiency is a huge benefit. Every superintendent knows the feeling of being rushed to complete course set-up jobs in the first hours of the day. Using the RG3 allows an employee who would traditionally be mowing greens to perform other tasks while the green is being mowed, such as cup cutting, green side bunker raking and tee prep. One employee is now able to complete the tasks of several employees.

"The RG3 is a good technology for us. It's a technology that, going forward, it's definitely the direction the industry is going," Sean O'Brien, director of grounds at Hawk's Landing, told me. "It allows us to be more efficient in our daily operation and get a lot of things finished that, truthfully we wouldn't be able to do unless we had the RG3 here." (Visit **www.golfdom.com/golfdom-tv** to see the complete interview with O'Brien.)

To learn more about the RG3, visit **www.precisepath.com**.

Matt Hendren, a contributing editor for Golfdom, is superintendent for the city of Kansas City, Kan. You can read his weekly blog, "Hendren's Hyperbole," at the Golfdom Daily, www.golfdom.blogspot.com.

PHOTO BY: MATT HENDREN