

# An up and down situation

**Elevation changes** and water-specific plantings made for one tough irrigation project

BY JASON STAHL / MANAGING EDITOR

Blaschka and Heidvogel, along with the engineers at Watertronics pumping systems, based in nearby Hartland, WI, designed a 7.5-hp pump station using what's known as

programmable logic control. The station can sense and adjust flow and pressure to meet the requirements of different turf and landscape areas on the estate. Some plants need more water than others, and at different times of the day.

"The potted plants around the pool needed water multiple times per day because the pots are clay and black and get very hot from the sun. We needed to water them not only to keep them continued on page 72

ick Heidvogel and Brian Blaschka regularly install irrigation systems at estates with homes valued from \$800,000 to \$3 million. The two are partners in The Lakeland Group of Nashotah, WI, specializing in irrigation, lighting and landscape manage-

Nevertheless, a \$1.8 million estate in nearby Oconomowoc, in the "Lake Country" area in southeastern Wisconsin, challenged their ingenuity. The 6-acre estate had elevation changes of up to 65 ft. It also contained large turf areas, annual beds, perennial beds and hanging potted plants.

Rather than irrigating the grounds from a well, the property uses the adjacent lake for its source of water, something that Heidvogel began perfecting in 1990 when he started the company.

#### To a higher level

ment.

"This required obtaining a pump station to distinguish between high-flow pressure demands and low-flow pressure demands," explains Heidvogel. "But pump stations don't like to see such a wide range of performance, so we had to figure out how to take technology to a higher level."



This 7.5-hp pump station distinguishes between high-flow and low-flow pressure demands.

continued from page 71 alive but keep them cool," Blaschka explains.

"The small grass areas around the steppers also needed to be put on a daily watering schedule. We ended up putting all the small demand beds and little turf areas on separate zones based on plant life, shade and other factors. It was costly, but it worked perfectly," he says.

The owner of the estate didn't want any water to get on the steppers, so Blaschka and Heidvogel turned to Netafim drip irrigation for precise watering. "We chose this product because it has worked well for us, and we knew we could bury it under the turf around the steppers," Blaschka says. "Also, we had the ability to

"Pump stations don't like to see such a wide range of performance."

— Rick Heidvogel

punch into the drip with emitters that allowed us to run tiny tubes up into each individual potted plant around the pool area."

Blaschka and Heidvogel ended up installing a sophisticated, \$30,000 irrigation system with a pump station that could handle both high pressure/flow needs and low pressure/flow needs. Also, drip irrigation and line emitter tubing helped the pair get water to where it was needed with no waste. **LM** 

# Company profile

Total revenue:

\$1.1 million

Staff:

6 full-time, 15 seasonal

Business breakdown:

62% — irrigation construction and business

20% — landscape lighting

18% — landscape management

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# ask the expert

BY BALAKRISHNA RAO

# Transplant shock

I planted 10 five- to eight-ft. white pines last spring, and all summer I watered them with a drip hose and saw some new growth. By October some of the needles on all of the trees were turning yellow. What should I do?

— VIRGINIA

The yellowing and dropping of some of the needles in all plants appears to be related to transplant shock. Most transplanted plants, because their absorbing roots have been cut off and lost in the original growing area, experience transplant shock. They need to reproduce new absorbing roots and readjust to new sites. They also need to be watered well during this period. Too little watering can cause drought effects and too much watering can cause needles to turn yellow. The key is to keep the area moist all through the planting and establishment period. The recovery may take four to five years for a 1- to 3-in. trunk caliper size plant, and a 4-in. and above plant may recover in five to ten years.

Some fertilizers such as a quick release source of nitrogen can burn the absorbing roots if overused.

Other causes of yellowing and defoliation include root rot diseases, drought or natural causes. Normally, three-year-old needles do become yellow and drop. Study the plants and see if any of the one- to two-year-old needles are showing symptoms.

Since these plants are under stress, it is a good idea to protect them with borer treatments using insecticides such as Dursban or Astro. Also, reduce stress by improving plant health through mulching, watering and fertilizing as needed.

# Unwanted vegetation

Which is the best herbicide to control/eliminate unwanted vegetation like banyan trees and allied plants, which sprout beside buildings and even occur in cracks near buildings which damage the masonry, structure and brick work?

- INDIA

Glyphosate 41% SL (Roundup) is one of the best ways to manage these undesirable sprouts. Another option is to use Picloram (sold as Tordon in the United States), Trichlopyr (known as Garlon) or clopyralid from Dow AgroSciences. These products may be sold under different names in India. Make sure they are labeled for this specific use. If not, test these products on a small area with proper permission. Treat plants when they are actively growing.

Another possibility is to use Arsenal herbicide from American Cyanamid Co., which can be sprayed over the sprouts or applied by hand with the cut-stem method. Again, make sure that the product is legal to use.

For small plants (sprouts), one application may be sufficient. However, for large plants, multiple treatments may be needed.

If the problem in and around the building is not too severe, mechanically removing the young seedlings as they sprout can reduce future problems.

# Injured buds

We have a large, mature sycamore on a client's property that has been slow to foliate this year. We noticed that the leaf buds formed, but never sprouted into full grown leaves and appeared dead. What can we do to help this beautiful tree?

- OHIO

The "slow to foliage" problem is probably because the buds are damaged. The buds were formed last year and were injured some time before bud break.

The damage could be from frost. If the buds broke dormancy before the last frost, the exposed plant parts could have been injured. However, the trees will refoliate by using the stored energy. If it happens year after year, this process can weaken the plant by depleting reserve energy of the plants.

The damage could also be from an early season leaf disease like sycamore anthracnose. This disease can be active under cool moist periods during spring. The fungus produces spores in previous years' cankers, infects the buds and causes bud blight. From there it infects leaves and causes leaf blight. Next, it causes twig blight and produces cankers.

Provide selective pruning as needed. When dry, disinfect the pruning tools between cuts. For anthracnose disease management, provide fungicide treatments such as Cleary's 3336 or trunk inject with Arbotect fungicides. Follow good injection guidelines to obtain good results. Also provide

proper mulching, watering, and fertilizing as needed to help improve plant health.

ferp

Manager of Research and Technical Development for the Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, Ohio SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO: "Ask the Expert" Landscape Management; 7500 Old Oak Blvd.; Cleveland, OH 44130, or email: sgibson@advanstar.com. Please allow two to three months for an answer to appear.



# No more core cleanup

The Grasshopper Company's new Aeravator makes core cleanup a thing of the past and leaves your turf available immediately after use. Its oscillating, forged steel tines penetrate and



fracture the soil, and it requires no irrigation prior to operation. It comes available in PTO-driven 40- and 60-in. models.

For more information call (316) 345-8621 / circle no. 250

#### A real gas

The W.E. gas cap guard, which fits both walkbehind and ZTR/riding mower gas tanks, prevents tampering with or theft of gas. It's also easy to install with ready access for the operator.

For more information call 904/761-2427 or visit www.wechapps.com / circle no. 251

## Stop tough weeds

Manufactured by DOW AgroSciences LLC, Lontrel T&O, a selective post-emergence herbicide, offers superior control of the broadleaf weeds landscape professionals see most — clover, dandelion, thistle, dollarweed, groundsel and plantain. Lontrel's active ingredient, clopyralid, moves through plants and attacks all parts, including root systems. Lontrel contains 3 lbs. of the active ingredient per gallon and is packaged in a tip-and-pour quart-sized container. Applications vary from .25 to 1.33 pints per acre or up to .5 oz. per 1,000 sq. ft.

For more information contact Dow at info@dowagro.com or 1-800-263-1196 / circle no. 252

# **Hedge and prune**

Shark Corp.'s YardShark telescopic hedger/pruner combines precision-ground cutting blades with a lightweight handle that changes its length for cutting high tree



canopies or reaching into thorny vegetation. With a single-handed flip of a lever, it grows from 31 to 46 in. so the user never has to change tools.

For more information call 800/777-5538 or visit www.sharksaw.com / circle no. 253

#### **Speedy aeration**

The Ryan Lawnaire is perfect for lawn care professionals and rental equipment operators who require core-type aeration at a high rate of speed. The self-propelled aerator features a 19-in. aerating width and covers up to 21,000 sq. ft. per hour. It can penetrate up to a depth of 2.75 in. with the added weight bar and full

roller drum. It comes equipped with 0.75-in. diameter tines.

For more information call 888/922-TURF / circle no. 254

## Along the curb

Borderline Stamp USA's curb machine can extrude low or line voltage lighting directly into



the concrete curbing to enhance landscapes at night. Borderline also offers many types of landscape curbs that can be textured in a wide variety of patterns.

For more information call 888/999-6641 or visit www.borderlinestamp.com / circle no. 255

#### Pneumatic seeder

RotaDairon's pneumatically powered, multi-purpose combination soil renovator and seeder uses an air-assisted seed delivery system to save labor and enhance the performance of the unit. Models come in 10- and 13-ft. wide versions.

For more information visit <u>www.mge-da-iron.com</u> / circle no. 257

# Portable spreader

SOLO's new portable spreader can spread ice melters, oil absorbers, sand, fertilizers, and seed and cleaning agents over irregular terrain more conveniently than a wheeled spreader. A built-in agitator and propeller operation eliminates blockages and improves uniformity of spread. It offers up to 20 lbs. of capacity and weighs only 5.5 lbs.

For more information call 757/245-4228 or visit www.solo.usa.com / circle no. 256



## Flower/foliage food

Simplot Turf and Horticulture's APEX Flower and Foliage controlled-release fertilizers come in four different formulations — 19-5-12, 19-6-12, 18-6-12, and 17-5-11. Featuring Polyon controlled-release coating technology, they provide nutrient longevity from three months up to 16 months. Additionally, all of the nutrients in the new APEX Flower and Foliage line, including magnesium and micronutrients, are uniformly combined in homogeneous granules to ensure each one contains the same elements. For more information on APEX Flower and Foliage call 800/992-6066 or visit www.simplot.com / circle no. 258

# Spray it

Otterbine's Concept2 line of aerators handle surface spray aeration needs for ponds and lakes: the High Volume2 unit has the highest pumping rate per horsepower of any aerator on the market and provides maximum work with minimum appearance. The Sunburst2 offers both aesthetic enhancement and aeration. The Phoenix2 offers a dual spray pattern. All Otterbine aerators come with 50 ft. of cable, a power control center and a warranty.

Contact Otterbine at 800/237-8837 or www.otterbine.com / circle no. 259

# Shoot for the sky

AquaMaster's Celestial Fountains can produce spray patterns up to 100 ft. in horsepowers from 10 to 25. They feature oversized flotation tires for easy launching, polyethylene, in-water adjustable floats, stainless steel frame with 16-



gauge stainless steel intake screen, electrical control panel, 100 ft. of underwater cable, cable disconnect and interchangeable nozzle. An optional 500-watt stainless steel halogen lighting system is also available.

Contact Aquamaster at 920/693-3121 or www.aquamasterfountains.com or circle no. 260

# Low pressure rotor



Hunter Industries' I-60 is a low precipitation turf rotor that provides 50 to 66 ft. of irrigation coverage for parks, sports fields and other areas where low water pressure is a concern. It's designed to operate at 40 to 60 psi, doesn't require a booster pump, has a 3-in. pop-up height and is available as a full circle or adjustable arc (40° to 360°) model.

Hunter Industries can be reached at 800/733-2823 or <u>www.hunterindustries.com</u> / circle no. 261

# **Trimming flexibility**

Echo Inc.'s curved shaft hedge clipper has a 7° bend in the shaft at the gearcase end which allows operators to trim complex shapes while standing comfortably at the base of a tall hedge. A 51-in. shaft allows operators to trim tall hedges without using chairs or ladders. Other features include a 23.6cc commercialduty, dual-ring piston engine and 20-in. double-sided, double reciprocating blades with a 10% increase in speed.

For more information call 847/540-8400 or visit www.echoincorporated.com / circle no. 262

# Pelletized compost

Now it's a breeze to apply compost with Planet Green's concentrated pelletized compost. These light, clean pellets can be applied with conventional drop or broadcast spreaders. Planet Green's compost offers a consistent 2-2-3 analysis with 6% calcium and 1% iron.

For more information contact Planet Green at 888/425-2827 or www.planetgreen.com / circle no. 263

# Calibration made easy

The PrizeLawn AccuRate Calibrator is designed to make rotary spreader calibration easy, practical and accurate. A materials collection box with an easily removable receptacle pan, it prevents granules from escaping and falling to the ground during the calibration process.

For more information contact the PSB Co. at 614/228-5781 or <a href="https://www.psbcompany.com/">www.psbcompany.com/</a> circle no. 264

# **Sharp tools**

Lowell Corp.'s pruners and brush cutters come in three models, two heavy duty brush cutters and one point cut pruner. The Forester models come in two sizes, 27-in. long, 4 5/8 lbs., cut-

ting capacity of 1 1/2-in.; and 34in., 7 3/4 lbs., designed to cut 2-in. material. Composite grips provide cushioning for the hands while minimizing slippage. The point cut pruner



can cut right down to its tips with minimal handle spread, reducing worker fatigue. The handles open wide for capacity cuts of material up to 1 1/4-in. thick.

Contact Lowell at 800/456-9355 / circle no. 265

#### Weed control

Compared to plastic film and laminated landscape fabric, GCI Professional Landscape Fabrics allow air and water to pass through to plant roots, ensuring healthy growth. They're perfect for weed control in container fields and greenhouse floors, landscape bed designs/tree planting, and as a filter fabric for trench drains. Use them to not only control weeds but stabilize soil under paving stones and prevent soil loss and erosion behind retaining walls.

For more information contact GCI Industries at 800/560-4GCI / circle no. 266

continued on page 76

# products

continued from page 75

## Rugged trailer

ShoreLand'r's trailer boasts a 1,400-lb. capacity. The deck measures 52 in. x 100 in. and is made of 5/8-in. premium grade plywood. Stake pockets along the frame accept 2 in. x 4 in. uprights



for side rails or provide convenient tie down points. A full axle and leafspring suspension make for smoother towing, molded fenders protect cargo from road debris, and built-in, anti-skid step pads in front and back allow convenient entry. Another feature is the rear gate/ramp that allows workers to drive an ATV, golf cart or riding lawnmower right onto the bed.

Visit ShoreLand'r's Web site at www.shorelandr.com / circle no. 267

#### In the clutch

DewEze Mfg. has come out with a clutch pump mounting kit for the 1999-2000 model Ford Super Duty with the 5.4L and 6.8L Triton engines. This new kit incorporates the Ford approval "Spider Mount" in its design, which meets Ford's requirements to maintain engine warranty in the mounting of accessories. Like all DewEze kits, this is serpentine drive with an automatic belt tensioner. The bracket is a one-piece hardened aluminum casting that is CNC machined for exact fit.

For more information contact DewEze at 800/835-1042 or <a href="https://www.deweze.com/">www.deweze.com/</a> circle no. 268

# No more weeding

Fabriscape's 2 oz. spunbond commercial weed stopper fabric stops 95% of weed growth, lets

air, water and fertilizer pass through to plant roots, and is permanent when covered from sunlight. As a filter fabric, it protects native soil and silt from clogging drainage septic systems, offers drainage protection to maintain flow and percolation, and prolongs the life of septic drain fields and drainage pipes.

For more information contact Fabriscape at 800/992-0550 or <a href="https://www.fabriscape.com/">www.fabriscape.com/</a> circle no. 269

# Bye bye nutgrass

Lawn and Garden Products says that the Nutgrass Nihilator controls yellow nutgrass by killing nutlets instead of burning down just the top of the plant. Apply it with an oil concentrate like Herbicide Helper, which assists in the herbicide getting into the inner tissue of the weed. Contact Lawn and Garden Products at 559/499-2100 or www.montereylawngarden.com/

# Sweepin' it all away

circle no. 270

A broom? Attached to a truck? Believe it, because TrynEx now has the Pro-Broom Truck Mount. Attachable to most brand name snowplows, the broom is built with a 90-in. mainframe constructed of 10-gauge hot-rolled pickled steel. Eight poly brush rows and a dual-angle hood helps tackle tough material or push heavy objects. No moving parts eliminates the need for cleaning and lubrication of sprockets and bearings. The Pro-Broom Truck Mount also comes in a 48-, 60- and 72-in. mainframe sizes.

Contact TrynEx International at 800/725-8377 / circle no. 271

#### Herbicide enhancer

Precision Laboratories says its new product, Delux, will enhance the performance of generic glyphosphate and certain postemergence herbicides on hard-to-control weed species. It's a biodegradable activator surfactant and ammonium sulfate premix that ties up antagonistic hard water ions and providing ammonium ions for improved herbicide uptake. Delux comes in 2.5-gal. containers.

Call Precision Control at 847/498-0800 x33 / circle no. 272



# Easy mower blade removal

Aggravating mower blade removal is history thanks to the Blade Buster, which clamps onto the mower deck and locks the blade in a stationary position for safe and easy removal. It works on both push and riding mowers and is made of heavy duty steel.

Call DesignLife Products at 847/266-7783 / circle no. 273

## Spread the news

Gandy Company says that its spreader models 36H13FR and 42T16FR are approved for use with PennMulch seed establishment mulch. Independent university tests showed that the spreaders can evenly spread PennMulch, making it even more useful to turf professionals, says Gandy.

For more information call 800/443-2476 / circle no. 274

# **Aquatic herbicide**

Avast! from Griffin L.L.C. is a slow-acting aquatic herbicide selectively effective on target species, allowing desirable vegetation to be reestablished without oxygen deprivation or fish kill. Avast! continues to control problem weeds for up to 12 months with minimal risk to the aquatic environment. It is available for sale as a flowable liquid formu-continued on page 79

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- 20 Manager/Superintendent Arborist, Architect, Landscape/Grounds Manager, Superintendent. Foreman, Supervisor
- 30 O Government Official Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
- 40 O Specialist Forester, Consultant, Agronomist, Pilot, Instructor, Researcher, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
- 50 Other Titled and Non-Titled Personnel (please specify)

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O Yes O No 4b. If yes, indicate which products you buy or specify: (fill in ALL that apply) 8 O Herbicides

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  Mowers Snow Removal Equipment
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- 5A. If so, how often do you use it? C O Monthly D Occasionally A O Daily B O Weekly

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15 Sweepers 16 Tractors 17 Truck Trailers/Attachments 18 Trucks

# products

continued from page 76 lated with four pounds active fluridone per gallon.

Call Griffin L.L.C. at 336/378-0571 / circle no. 275

#### Take a seat

Calhoun Mfg.'s Trak replacement vinyl seat covers and cushions for riding mowers, lawn and garden tractors, and farm equipment come in six different sizes and are easy to install

Contact Calhoun at 616/962-0948 / circle no. 276

# All-purpose utility vehicle

Howard Price Turf Equipment says its new Maverick 6x4 truckster with six-wheel independent suspension and 20 hp Honda OHV engine is "tough in backcountry and tender to the turf."



The vehicle also features variable speed transmission with rubber mounted engine and transmission, inboard wet brakes, differential lock and top speed of 19 mph. Load capacity is 1 400 lbs

Call Howard Price Turf at 636/532-7000 / circle no. 277

# A chip off the old block

Bandit's 1890 Drum Bandit chipper features increased throwing velocity while eliminating all blow-back from the infeed spout. The new easy climb spring tension system that is now standard on the 12-in. and 18-in. units provides little down pressure until a load presents itself. The new feed system has twice the pulling power and climbs material more easily while

adding greater crushing capacity. The 1890 also has thicker 5/8-in. knives that are 5 1/3-in. wide. The chipper also has two new 250 hp options: the Cummins 6CTA diesel and the John Deere Model 6081A diesel.

Reach Bandit at 800/952-0178 or www.banditchippers.com / circle no. 278

# Hang tight

Cooper Tools says its Gripple Rope Grip and Gripple Hang-Fast is perfect for bracing shrubs and trees or suspending lighting, sprinklers and heater/blower units. It is available in sizes rang-



ing from 1/16 in. to 1/2 in., and the reusable Rope-Grip offers a strong, fast, easy and safe method for joining, tensioning and terminating wire rope. The Hang-Fast comes in a range of sizes and load range limits.

For more information contact Cooper Tools at www.coopertools.com / circle no. 279

## In control

Dig Corp.'s battery controller offers waterproof operation, versatile programming, and a digital LCD display. Powered by two nine-volt batteries, it can be mounted to the top of a valve or on the inside wall of a valve box and can be programmed for four start times, from one minute to 12 hours. Options include 3/4-in. - 20 threaded solenoid or 3/4-, 1-, 1 1/2- and 2-in. flow control in-line valves. Also available is 3/4-in. and 1-in. actuators to convert most manual antisiphon valves.

Contact Dig at 800/322-9146 or www.digcorp/asdig / circle no. 280

# Send a signal

Superior Signals' Meteorlite 2000 series potted strobe is no disco light, but it is designed for

heavy vibration with the electronics epoxy coated to protect against moisture. One model is a 10-joule strobe with 85 quad flashes per minute, while the other is 15 joules. High profile is 6 1/4 in. while short is 4 1/2 in. Colors include amber, clear, blue, green and red. Each strobe consists of a polycarbonate base and features a combination flat and 1-in. pipe mount standard. Call Superior Signals at 800/447-3693 / circle no. 281

## **Titillating tillers**

New Holland Construction's new tillers, manufactured by Alitec, are ideal for breaking up clumps, preparing seedbeds, mixing compost into existing soil and tilling home sites prior to landscaping. Bi-directional tine rotation allows the unit to operate effectively with the skid steer moving forward or backward. Offset mounting permits tilling next to curbs, sidewalks, and buildings. Replaceable, hardened tines are made for extended life and easy replacement. The tillers have a working depth of 6 in. and are available in 52-, 73-, and 84-in. cutting widths.

land.com/construction / circle no. 282

# **Fertilization efficiency**

Emerald Isle Nutri•Rational Foliars bypass the roots and provide efficient intake of plant nutrients through the leaf tissue by using proprietary chelation methods and advanced technology. Each product provides the most desirable forms of turf nutrients in an ideal ratio and has the Emerald Isle "Multiple Release Formats" technology.

For more information contact Emerald Isle, Ltd. at 800/628-GROW / circle no. 283

# **Blast those bugs**

The Rohm and Haas Co. introduces Address T & O insecticide that controls mole crickets, fire ants, cutworms, army worms and other pests. It's water-soluble and absorbed by turf, tree and shrub roots and foliage. Spot applications also can be used to control wasps, ants, crickets, cockroaches, earwigs and pill bugs. Available in 1 lb. canisters, 10-lb. bags and 1/3-lb. water-soluble pouches.

Contact the Rohm and Haas Company at 800/987-0467 / circle no. 284

reating Simple

(800) 275-8558

www.remotecontroltech.com

# **Solutions**



Stop by Landscape Show Booth #544

As manufacturers expand controller capability and size, we create convenient solutions to easily adapt our remote control systems. To eliminate hardwiring, we produced Receiver Cards for quick and easy, permanent installation that are capable of operating up to the controller's station capacity. With one transmitter you can control Receiver Cards for Rain Bird® ESP MC & LX, Superior Sterling and Irritrol® Dial & MC controllers. We also offer portable, universal models for all 24VAC controllers. Remote Control

Circle No. 120

Technology





AA-TACH, PV-II



The PV-II is the most cost effective Parking Lot Sweeper on the market today. Take a look at the advantages over a conventional truck mounted sweeper

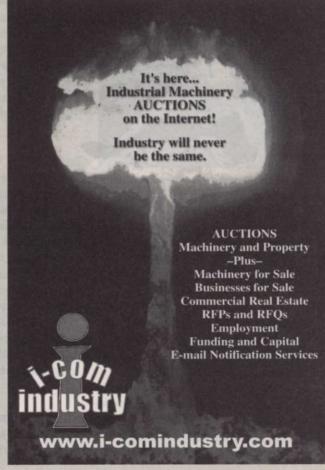
- No need to purchase a dedicated truck The PV-II loads and unloads from YOUR truck in just minutes, allowing YOUR truck to perform other tasks, like pushing snow
- Due to the Poly design of the PV-II, there's no need to replace expensive replacement parts due to rust and abrasion.

  Best of all is the PV-II's low cost, which is thousands less than
- the nearest truck mounted units.

Call today for a free no hassle demonstration of the AA-Tach, PV-II.

1-888-922-8224

Circle No. 121



Circle No. 123