GROUNDSKEEPING JOURNAL

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SALTEX 2026
Where the grounds management industry meets

GREENTEK
Faster topdressing from yard to green

FORZA
Moves into paint products

WOODHALL SPA
Locks in Doak Design for long term

PLUS...



ATT:
Building momentum ahead of SALTEX Showcase



ECO CLIPPER:
Reliable mowing in changing conditions



STM'S PINK WARRIOR:
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Welcome to Groundskeeping Journal, the UK's leading bi-monthly publication providing latest product innovations, industry news and opinions from key professionals within the industry. With focuses on Aeration, Irrigation & Drainage; Greenskeeping; Latest News; Machinery; Pitch & Line Marking; Specialist Mowers; Sports Ground Equipment; Sports Pitches; Top Dressing; Sprayers & Spraying and Turf Management.



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Hello and welcome to Groundskeeping Journal. Our publication has been created to showcase the very latest industry news and product information from the Groundskeeping sector.

In each edition we carry in depth articles from some of the industry leaders, the articles cover many aspects of Groundskeeping with some offering tips and advice on Sports Pitches, Turf Management, Greens Keeping and much, much more. Whether you are looking for tips and advice on creating the perfect green or looking to source the right product for your synthetic surface GKJ has it all.



Our vision is to connect our readers with professionals and suppliers working within their sector and we hope that we have created a platform that will become a must have tool for anyone working within the industry.

Many thanks for taking the time to read our publication, we hope you enjoy the read and if you would like to keep up to date with all things GKJ then make sure you check out our subscribe page.



Follow us on our Social Media

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Contact the Groundskeeping Journal team below:

Editor-In-Chief
Antony Holter
editor@mhmagazine.co.uk
01304 806039

Editor
Emma Page
emma@groundskeepingjournal.co.uk
01304 806039

Publishing Director
Martin Holmes
martin@mhmagazine.co.uk
01304 806039

Sales Director
Lee Martin
lee@groundskeepingjournal.co.uk
01227 936974

Business Manager
Josh Holmes
josh@mhmagazine.co.uk
01304 806039

Studio Designer
Alex MacDonald

Digital Manager
Jamie Bullock
jamie@mhmagazine.co.uk
01227 936971

Accounts Department
Alison Holmes
accounts@mhmediaglobal.com
01227 936971

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SALTEX 2026: Where the grounds management industry meets





The grounds management industry will come together at the NEC Birmingham on 11-12 November as SALTEX celebrates its landmark 80th edition.

Organised by the Grounds Management Association (GMA), SALTEX 2026 will connect grounds professionals, volunteers, manufacturers, suppliers and industry organisations from across sport, education, local authorities, landscaping and wider amenity management.

This year's exhibition will give visitors the opportunity to compare the latest machinery, turf-care products and technology, speak directly with suppliers and discover practical solutions for their own sites.

A series of product launches and UK debuts will demonstrate how manufacturers are responding to demand for smarter, cleaner and more efficient equipment.

ISEKI UK & Ireland will give the fully electric AllTrec 7510F out-front commercial mower its UK debut alongside the launch of the new ISEKI Sports Turf Scheme.

DENAIYOU Intelligent Technology will use SALTEX as the UK launch platform for three electric turf-care machines: the E362B Electric Triplex Reel Mower, EDY750 Electric Turf Sprayer and EDL80A Electric Walk-Behind Cylinder Mower.

Elsewhere, **LEDTURE** will introduce new sports and entertainment lighting solutions, while Origin Amenity Solutions will unveil its Nutri-Max liquid nutrition range. GKB Machines will showcase its DTA High Speed, designed to help grounds teams complete deep-tine aeration more efficiently.

Visitors will also find the latest equipment from established industry names including Kubota, Baroness, Dennis and SISIS, Campey Turf Care Systems, Howardson Group and many more.

Education will remain central to the event. Learning LIVE will deliver 30 hours of free expert-led content across three stages, covering sports turf best practice, workforce development, sustainability, technology, funding, climate resilience and weed, pest and disease management.

The programme will bring together experienced practitioners, emerging talent and leading organisations, giving visitors access to knowledge they can apply within their own clubs, facilities and businesses.

For more practical learning, The Workshop will return with live, hands-on sessions covering machinery maintenance and set-up, sprayer best practice and performance optimisation. Visitors will be able to put their questions directly to machinery specialists and gain advice designed for use beyond the show.

New for 2026, the SAPCA Pavilion will unite specialists involved in the development of modern sports and recreation facilities, including Foams 4 Sports, Premier Sports Surfaces, Mapei, Labosport, JUTA, Boud Minerals and GCP Chartered Architects.

The 80th edition will also celebrate the industry's heritage through The Archive. Supported by The Hall & Duck Trust, the feature will trace the development of grounds management through historic machinery, milestones and innovations, including an 1858 Improved Budding mower, a 1905 Ransomes Patent Motor Mower and a 1919 Simar rotavator.

Alongside the products and education, SALTEX remains an important opportunity to meet fellow professionals, exchange ideas and strengthen relationships across the sector.

Entry and visitor parking are free, making the event an accessible opportunity to spend two focused days discovering what is changing across the industry.

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Origin Amenity to unveil new liquid nutrition range at SALTEX

SALTEX 2026 is set to be the launch platform for a brand-new advanced liquid fertiliser range from Origin Amenity, when the industry's leading total solutions provider returns to the NEC this November. Available in four formulations, Nutri-Max has been developed to maximise nutrient efficiency, uptake and turf performance - with all the details on this, and more, available to visitors on stand D090.

Combining two leading technologies - Nutrisphere® nitrogen efficiency and In-Flux - Nutri-Max helps retain more nitrogen in the target area by reducing losses through volatilisation, leaching and denitrification, while improving spray coverage and foliar absorption to minimise leaf run-off. By making more nutrients available through both the rootzone and leaf, Nutri-Max provides a highly efficient approach to liquid nutrition.

With specialist formulations for spring and summer, periods of active growth and cooler conditions, alongside Nutri-Max 26-0-0 for promoting recovery, Nutri-Max promises to deliver consistent colour, controlled growth and improved turf quality while maximising the value of every application.

Besides nutrition, the OAS technical team will also be putting a spotlight on line marking - with markers from the TinyMobileRobots range taking centre stage once again. Proudly offering one of the most comprehensive line marker and paint ranges in the UK, including advanced autonomous GPS line markers, Origin can offer the right product and expert local support to ensure that all sports surfaces from grassroots to elite can benefit from clear, consistent, high-quality results.

Visitors will also have the chance to dive deeper into the TinyMobileRobots range with an exclusive trip to the TMR factory in Aarhus, Denmark, up for grabs in a fun obstacle course challenge taking place in the SALTEX Arcade across the two days.

For sports turf professionals looking for more than simply a product supplier, a stop by stand D090 is a must. Bringing together a comprehensive portfolio of trusted products, innovative technologies and specialist technicalexpertise, the Origin team can offer practical, joined-up solutions across nutrition, grass seed, plant protection, irrigation, digital tools and more to suit all surfaces and all budgets.

www.originamenity.com







Trailed Maredo delivers versatility across turf maintenance operations

From verticutting and frase mowing to aeration and overseeding, Maredo's tractor-mounted range offers contractors and grounds maintenance professionals a versatile approach to year-round turf care.

With seven models covering a variety of applications, the MT series provides practical solutions for maintaining and renovating sports pitches, public open spaces, amenity areas and other managed turf surfaces.

A key advantage is the modular design, allowing operators to invest in complete machines or add compatible working head sets to broaden their maintenance capabilities. For contractors managing multiple sites and varying turf conditions, this flexibility helps make better use of equipment and investment.

The MT200 Flex Verticutter is available with 2.3 mm blades at either 30 mm or 40 mm spacing, providing options for thatch management and routine surface maintenance.

For more intensive renovation, the MT170 Flex Fraze Mower removes unwanted surface material, while the MT210 Vibe Spike Aerator uses vibrating spike technology to aerate turf.

Four specialist seeders complete the range, offering a choice of disc and spike systems to suit different grass species and renovation requirements.

The MT410 Vibe Disc Seeder is configured for bentgrass, with the MT418 designed for fescue and ryegrass. Both use vibrating disc technology to create seed channels and assist seed placement.

The MT420 Vibe Spike Seeder, for bentgrass, and MT424, for fescue and ryegrass, provide an alternative approach using vibrating spikes.

For contractors, the ability to undertake several operations with a modular system offers clear advantages. From planned maintenance and seasonal renovations to targeted remedial work, the range provides flexibility to tackle different tasks across multiple sites.

Separate working head sets are available for the MT200, MT170, MT210, MT410 and MT418, with dosing rollers also offered.

The Maredo tractor-mounted range is available via Maredo UK dealers. For further information, visit www.maredoturf.co.uk or call 0141 814 3366.

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Howardson Group to Showcase a Trio of Turfcare Excellence at SALTEX 2026





The Howardson Group will bring together its three established British brands - Dennis, SISIS and Hunter Grinders - at SALTEX 2026, taking place at the NEC Birmingham on 11-12 November.

Visitors can explore specialist equipment and engineering expertise spanning professional mowing, turf maintenance and precision grinding, with each brand offering practical solutions to the challenges faced by grounds professionals.

Dennis: A SALTEX milestone

Dennis will celebrate a unique milestone at SALTEX 2026, having exhibited at every edition of the show as it marks its 80th year. On Stand E124, the brand will combine more than a century of British manufacturing expertise with its latest developments in battery-powered professional mowing, led by the new ES-34SL lightweight finishing mower.

The wider Dennis range will also be on display, demonstrating its versatility across a variety of professional mowing applications. Whether exploring battery-powered technology for the first time or expanding an existing fleet, visitors can speak with the team about their individual surface requirements and discover how Dennis machines deliver the precision, consistency and quality of cut demanded by professional grounds teams.

SISIS: Meeting the challenges of turf maintenance

Following a season of exceptionally hot, dry and unpredictable weather, SISIS will return to SALTEX on Stand E110 with a comprehensive range of turf preparation and maintenance equipment, backed by decades of practical experience and technical knowledge.

From aeration and scarification to overseeding, brushing and surface renovation, the SISIS range includes tractor-mounted and pedestrian machinery, hand tools and specialist equipment for maintaining natural, hybrid and synthetic sports surfaces. The team will be on hand to discuss the practical challenges faced by grounds professionals and the equipment available to help achieve consistent results.

Hunter Grinders: Precision in the workshop

Hunter Grinders will showcase its specialist grinding technology on Stand E110, featuring the Jupiter ATI 'All in One' Grinder and Amazon Bottom Blade Grinder. The Jupiter combines automated functions with precision engineering to deliver accurate, repeatable grinding while reducing operator input. Complementing the Jupiter, the Amazon provides workshops with a dedicated solution for precise and efficient bottom blade grinding, helping maintain cutting-unit performance and consistency.

Together, Dennis, SISIS and Hunter Grinders demonstrate the breadth of expertise within the Howardson Group, from professional mowing and turf maintenance to the precision grinding required to maintain cutting performance.

SALTEX provides an opportunity to meet the teams behind all three brands, explore the latest product developments and discuss individual turfcare requirements with experienced specialists.

www.howardsongroup.com

Turf Tank's line marking robots gain ground across UK pitches

Anyone who has marked a pitch knows the routine: string lines, measuring tape, and hours on end getting the lines just right. When the job falls to volunteers, it gets harder still. For a growing number of UK clubs, schools and councils, that routine is changing. Turf Tank's line marking robots now handle the pitch marking, so the people who used to do it by hand can get on with their ever-growing list of jobs.

"People who have never lined a pitch before are not having to come down and sit there with a measuring tape trying to figure out how to get a right angle," says Neil McNaughton, President and Groundsman, Crosshouse Community FC. "They can literally use an app on a tablet, create a new pitch anywhere."

As the customer base grows, the model behind it stays the same: subscription, service, and stability, all built around the people who mark the pitches every week.

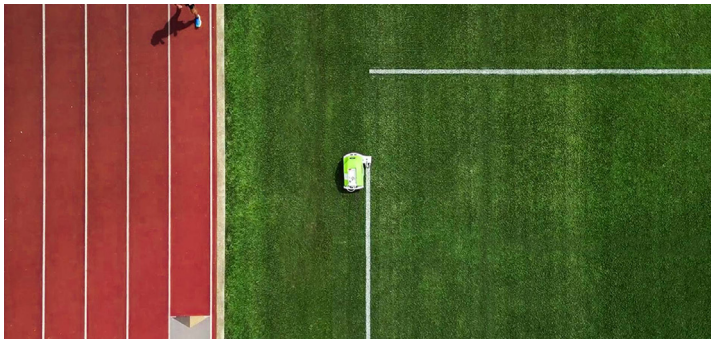
Subscription

No big upfront investment or surprise costs. Turf Tank bundles each customer's robot, service, and support into one predictable annual price that everyone in the organisation can stand behind.

Service

No middlemen, dealers, or distributor networks. Turf Tank services its customers directly, with the largest local field operations team in the game,







committed to turning up and supporting them, rain or shine.

Last year, Turf Tank expanded its UK team, adding regional specialists to bring that support even closer to customers. When a question comes up, customers speak to someone local who knows their pitches and the conditions they work in.

"Having people on the ground across the regions means our customers get help from someone who understands their conditions, their challenges, and their pitches," says Mike Thomsen, Operations Manager at Turf Tank.

Stability

No shortcuts on quality or accuracy. Turf Tank robots are built to last more than 10 years, with the same reliability, durability, and precision that groundsmen and their teams can count on season after season.

For customers, the benefits go further than straight lines.

"I would recommend it without a second thought," says Sebastian Watts, Head Groundsman and Welfare Officer at Oakworth Juniors FC. "It's not just about looks, it's about your presentation, your time saving, your paint saving. There's just so many benefits."

Groundsmen who want to see the robot for themselves can find Turf Tank at SALTEX on 11 and 12 November at the NEC, Birmingham, on stand B100.





Kubota to showcase versatile mowing and powerful compact tractor performance at SALTEX

No trip to SALTEX would be complete without a stop at the Kubota stand, with E060 this year offering visitors a comprehensive showcase of compact tractors and innovative mowing solutions to suit all situations. The stand will once again be shared with Baroness, bringing together two complimentary Japanese manufacturers to deliver one impressive line-up of equipment critical to successful sports turf maintenance.

At the heart of Kubota's SALTEX offering will be the FC Series of out-front centre collect mowers. Designed to provide professional operators with a highly versatile cut and collection solution, the FC range combines excellent productivity and manoeuvrability with a wide range of optional attachments and implements - allowing the machines to be configured for a variety of applications beyond mowing and helping to maximise machine utilisation throughout the year.

Kubota will also highlight their expanded zero-turn range, offering even greater choice for facilities that demand the very best in productive rotary mowing. With petrol, diesel and battery-powered options available, Kubota's zero-turn machines are ideal for amenity applications thanks to their ability to negotiate obstacles and confined areas while maintaining high mowing speeds and a precision finish.



Completing the display will be an impressive selection of industry-leading compact tractors to suit all applications and all budgets. The entry-level EK1-261 will once again demonstrate Kubota quality in a package ideal for grassroots sports facilities, while machines from thepopular L-Series promise to reaffirm why the brand remains a dependable workhorse for everything from routine maintenance to more demanding, specialist tasks.

Visitors are invited to discover more in conversation with the Kubota team, supported by the Kubota dealer network, who will be on hand at the NEC throughout the two-day event.

www.kubota-eu.com

GKB Powering the Progress of Parkers Pitches

Supporting contractors Parkers Pitches in their ongoing expansion is a fleet of efficient, robust equipment from GKB Machines. Pushing firmly into larger drainage and construction projects across East Anglia has demanded machinery that can step-up, and stay reliable under pressure and that's exactly what owner Will Parker says they've enjoyed with their V-Strong, Combinator and, most recently, their SP100 topdresser.

Will together with wife Lydia run Parkers Pitches, with a further team of three full-time operatives on the ground. In just a few short years, the contractors have built a strong reputation for cricket and football renovations, increasingly undertaking projects on other sports surfaces including drainage-led projects in golf. "As we began to expand, we found we were picking up more topdressing work and needed something faster and with more capacity" explains Will.

With a V-Strong and GKB Combinator already demonstrating fantastic build quality and versatility, Will was confident enough to purchase the Sandspreader without the need for a demonstration. They opted for an SP100, a broadcast disc-dresser with a 1.0m3 hopper - the ideal size for mounting on their existing John Deere ProGator.

"It's been absolutely bulletproof" he exclaims. "We're putting thousands of tonnes through it every year and you wouldn't know it. It runs perfectly every time, we've barely had to put a spanner on it... even the paint is still immaculate inside the hopper! This productivity and reliability is crucial for keeping our schedule on track in tight renovation windows."

The performance of the SP100 has come as no surprise to the team, with similar qualities on show from their V-Strong scarifier and Combinator. "The V-Strong is exactly that - unbelievably strong! Cricket square can be really hard come the end of a season and where our previous machine would struggle on renovations, the V-Strong doesn't blink - getting the job done in less than half the time."

"Our 1.6m Combinator also is getting used more and more and, again, it's rarely missed a beat. On the odd occasion we've needed support, GKB's Tom Shinkins and the team at Ernest Doe have gone above and beyond to get us back up and running and keeping us on track." Will concludes, "As we continue to grow and move into new areas, we know we have the right equipment and right support with GKB to make it a success."

www.gkbmachines.com









DLF's PM81 delivers deep-rooted performance at the University of Exeter

The University of Exeter has revealed how it relies on DLF's PM81 4Turf to deliver the resilience and recovery required to meet a demanding programme of student and community sport. With a total of 15 grass sports pitches for football and rugby, along with a dedicated cricket square and outfield, Grounds Manager Tim Wakeham explains how the deeper rooting of this tetraploid perennial ryegrass mixture has been particularly important this year tackling the combination of high usage and hot, dry weather.

Tim joined the University in March 2024, taking charge of a team of four and leading the maintenance of both the natural and artificial turf surfaces. "The pitches host an incredibly busy schedule which means that we don't get as much time on them as we like during term-time - emphasising the importance of a good renovation and overseed come the end of the season" he says.

Quickly identifying issues with shallow rooting and poor soil quality, the decision was made to switch to PM81 4Turf from DLF - a product and range Tim was familiar with and knew would perform under pressure. "Having distributed the ProMaster range in a previous role, I was confident that choosing a deeper rooting tetraploid mix would bring multiple benefits to the quality of our winter sports surfaces and, so far, it's delivered on all fronts."

PM81 4Turf combines tetraploid and diploid perennial ryegrass cultivars to provide a durable, hard-wearing sward suited to renovations and intensive sports use. The mixture incorporates 4Turf tetraploid perennial ryegrass alongside high-performing dwarf perennial ryegrass cultivars, bringing together strong establishment, wear tolerance, recovery and an attractive playing surface.

"It's given us the play characteristics we require but, more than that, the pitches have good colour and appearance - strong presentation is important." Tim also notes the recovery of the PM81 4Turf following this summer's drought. "As soon as we could get some water on the pitches, they sprang back really quickly and that quality is only going to become more important with these more frequent and prolonged periods of challenging weather."

Alongside the seed, Tim also values the ongoing support from DLF's Ian Barnett. "I've known Ian for years and really value his input, knowledge and the confidence it provides when deciding on the best course of action for each surface." With ProMaster also being selected for renovations on the University's cricket outfield this year, it's a partnership that's set to stay.

www.dlf.co.uk





Baroness to bring precision, performance and versatility to stand E060 at SALTEX

Baroness will showcase its renowned range of industry-leading mowing technology at SALTEX 2026, with an extensive line-up of rotary and cylinder mowers taking centre stage on stand E060. Visitors will have the chance to explore leading solutions for maintaining fine turf and sports surfaces, including the company's premium GM2810A five-deck ride-on mower, alongside a selection of robust and reliable equipment ideal for renovations and in-season maintenance.

The popular Baroness GM2810A is equipped with five rotary decks that individually follow undulating terrain, delivering a quality cut and a precision finish on a variety of areas. It's 2.8m mowing width enables high productivity, while a large displacement turbo clean engine and unique hydraulic circuit drive system provides first-class climbing capacity and unmatched performance on banks and slopes. Complimenting this on stand will be the LM351 - a flexible, well-balanced triplex cylinder mower with the power to cut longer grass and the finesse to produce a superior finish - and the pedestrian LM56/66 machines.

At the heart of every Baroness reel mower is the cutting cylinder and bedknife, with every cutting cylinder individually balanced and heat treated for longevity and a cut which stays sharp and true.

With leaf-fall season just around the corner, SALTEX also provides the perfect platform to showcase the AgriMetal Turbine Blower TB-270. Equipped with an aluminium cast turbine propeller, the TB-270 provides a long-lasting solution to the fast and effective clearance of leaves and other debris from golf courses, sports facilities and other amenity green spaces.

Completing the display will be the FS900 sweeper/collector. Not only is the FS900 the perfect partner to time-critical golf course renovations - quickly lifting and removing scarification material, cores and other maintenance debris - it is also proving a highly productive alternative to the traditional rotary mower when it comes to the post-match 'clean-up cut' on sports pitches.

Stand E060 will once again be shared with fellow groundcare leaders, Kubota, providing visitors to SALTEX with a unique opportunity to experience the complimentary capabilities of two Japanese manufacturers whose products are built around precision, reliability and performance.

www.baronessuk.com

BAGMA Training for Business to launch on stand A030 at SALTEX 2026

Training will be top of the agenda for The British Agricultural and Garden Machinery Association (BAGMA) on their return to SALTEX this November. Stand A030 will be the launch platform for 'Training for Business', with members invited to stop by and find out more about a brand new, powerful range of learning and development resources designed specifically for dealership owners, managers and staff.

BAGMA has a long and illustrious track record for providing industry-leading training and development programmes. Reflecting the extensive industry changes and the increasingly challenging market within which dealerships operate, BAGMA has teamed up with education leaders and experts within their Service Provider network to develop a series of training programmes which cover key topics including succession planning, aftersales and the key to building a competitive, sustainable dealership.

The new Training for Business programme will run alongside BAGMA's existing educational offering, which includes Handover & Installation training and the industry's first EV training - a one-day programme to help technicians, sales staff, delivery drivers, engineers and workshop personnel gain a working knowledge of the hazards of high-voltage electric systems, best practice for handling and storage of battery packs and an awareness of all relevant legislation and compliance requirements.

BAGMA are pleased to be hosting a seminar on the topic of EV Safety as part of SALTEX's Learning LIVE programme this year - a free to attend session taking place at 2pm on Wednesday 11th November on the Community Sports Stage.

Following this at 3pm on the first day, the BAGMA team will also be hosting an exclusive Connect event in The Clubhouse, sponsored by Iseki, with members invited to join peers, industry partners and a selection of BAGMA Service Providers for a drink.

If you're wondering if BAGMA membership could help your business, stand A030 is the place to find out more about training, discounts and the other member benefits available when SALTEX returns to the NEC, Birmingham, on 11th-12th November 2026.

www.bagma.com





ATT build momentum ahead of SALTEX Showcase

An exciting year for Advanced Turf Technology (ATT) - which has seen the company's re-acquisition to its original ownership and recent expansion of the UK sales force - will culminate in an impressive machinery showcase at SALTEX. Visitors can expect to see highlights from the INFINICUT® range, including the FX347 and SM34 Rotary mower, alongside the full collection of TMSystem™ maintenance cassettes on stand C110.

Following the buy back in February 2026, John Coleman and new company Chairman David Withers have been working tirelessly to reaffirm the INFINICUT's position as a leading force in the global mower market. With a new Sales Manager in Jeremy Vincent and a move to new dedicated manufacturing premises earmarked in the coming months, the team are well placed to support the existing range and customer base and accelerate innovations and new products currently in the development pipeline.

Highlights from the current INFINICUT® range will take centre stage at the NEC this November, including the FX347. The latest addition to the cylinder mower collection, the FX347 is a fixed head, 34" pedestrian mower equipped with 7" diameter cutting reel, ideal for training grounds and other premium sports turf facilities. As has become expected with INFINICUT®, the FX347 delivers industry-leading cut quality, ergonomic control and ease of set-up and adjustment via the InfiniApp™.

The ATT technical team will also be on hand to talk visitors through the TMSystem™ range of grooming, mowing and maintenance cassettes. Unlocking the full potential of your INFINICUT® pedestrian unit or most mainstream models of ride-on mower, the TMSystem™ range features 12 application specific cassettes that replace OEM cutting reels and deliver optimum maintenance results on both fine turf and sports turf surfaces.

Get all of your INFINICUT® and maintenance questions answered with a stop by stand C110 when SALTEX returns on 11th and 12th November 2026.
www.inifinicut.com

STM's Pink Warrior Campaign Prize Draw

Despite an extraordinary year as regards weather, and where, for a lot of people, you once had grass but currently have "crust", we are happy to say machines have still been "going out the door."

We still see a high level of interest in the stand-on style of machine, but there's always room for a pedestrian or a ride-on in people's machinery arsenal.

Very big part of the STM 2026 year has been the Pink Warrior Campaign:

"Supporting real-life warriors in the battle of their lives".

For several years now SCAG in the USA, for whom STM are the sole UK importers, have had a campaign called "Simply the Brave", to support their Nation's Heroes, with machines in military colours with discounts and a contribution by them for each machine in the special series sold.

This year they have extended this concept to, as they say, "support our mothers, daughters, sisters, friends, and neighbours who have been affected by breast cancer."

The machines are the familiar bright fuchsia pink - and look simply stunning.

STM took the idea on board and also, because of a personal connection, decided to augment contributions by arranging a "Pink Warrior Prize Draw". One of the machines is the prize, and ALL proceeds from this draw go to Cancer Research.

At Saltex we will be doing the draw for the winning number - and also presenting a cheque for the monies raised to Cancer Research.

About the Pink Warrior:

It's a 52" cut petrol engine Zero-Turn Ride-on, based on the SCAG "Patriot" machine.

More details on the STM website www.st-mach.com



From STM Co Ltd and SCAG.com

The "Pink Warrior" Campaign from STM (UK) and SCAG (USA)
Each machine sold in this campaign will be providing funds for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Pink Warrior machines are a LIMITED EDITION run, prepared specially for the campaign.



WARRIOR

The STM Co Pink Warrior Draw

STM are **donating one of these machines** to a Prize Draw, with **100% of the total income** from the giving page going to Breast Cancer Awareness through Cancer Research UK.

STM Co Ltd in Warwickshire are the sole importers of SCAG products in the UK, and they are joining the SCAG incentive, PLUS doing a Prize Draw for a Pink Warrior machine in association with Cancer Research UK.

Using this QR code people can donate to a dedicated giving page, with a draw to take place at SALTEX at the NEC, 11th - 12th November 2026 Stand QO60

01789 488450
info@st-mach.com www.st-mach.com
Advice, Demos, Supply, Training, Spares and Technical back-up from the STM Co Ltd nationwide network

Rapid RoboFlail® STM SCAG POWER EQUIPMENT®

This year, SALTEX is looking back as well as forward.

Celebrating its 80th edition, the show's 2026 theme, 'Rooted in History. Driving Progress.', recognises how far grounds management has come since the first exhibition in 1938, while looking ahead to the technology, skills and ideas shaping its future.

It's a theme that feels particularly fitting for Tudor Environmental.

Our own roots in the industry go back decades. Before supplying grounds maintenance professionals, we spent 20 years doing the job ourselves. That was followed by 30 years supplying the trade, building a business around something that hasn't changed much over the years: understanding what professionals actually need to get the job done.

The products certainly have changed. Battery technology, smarter equipment and more sustainable solutions now sit alongside the everyday tools and consumables grounds teams have relied on for years.

Visitors to our stand - B110 - can talk to a Tudor team with first-hand experience across grounds maintenance, greenkeeping and arboriculture, discover more about our extensive product range and find out how our large central stockholding and Tudor Express service can help keep teams working, with next working day delivery on qualifying items ordered by 5pm on weekdays.

Last year, we were delighted to win Best Stand in our category, which does mean we've set ourselves a rather inconvenient standard to beat this year!

So, come and see how we've done, have a catch-up, talk shop and pick up a freebie while you're there.

Find Tudor Environmental on Stand B110 at SALTEX, NEC Birmingham, 11th-12th November 2026. The show is free to attend, so register at saltex.org.uk before you go.



Let's Talk Turf at SALTEX

Stand B110 | NEC Birmingham | 11–12 November

Award-winning stand.
Bigger and better for 2026.

80TH EDITION SALTEX

- Talk to our team about getting turf back on track after this year's record-breaking summer
- See turf care, seed, fertilisers, irrigation, machinery, tools and PPE, all under one roof
- Find out about next working day delivery with *Tudor Express*
- Catch up with familiar faces
- Pick up some Tudor freebies





Free to attend. Register at saltex.org.uk

tudor environmental

sales@tudorenvironmental.co.uk
02476 856 846
tudorenvironmental.co.uk

Specifying for Synthetic Pitch Performance in 2027

As the grounds care industry comes together for SALTEX, attention naturally turns to the products, systems and suppliers that will support sports facilities through the year ahead. For synthetic pitches, performance is not determined by the visible surface alone. The materials specified within the system play a vital role in how that surface behaves over time.

Infill is one of those critical components. The right infill helps influence drainage, surface stability, traction and player comfort. When specified correctly, it can support year-round playability and reduce unnecessary maintenance intervention.

Grantex Premium Dried Sports Sand has been engineered specifically for synthetic sports pitch infill systems. Manufactured in the UK at our specialist drying and grading facility in Rye, East Sussex, it is naturally rounded, kiln-dried and precision graded from 0.3-1mm to deliver uniform coverage and dependable performance.

For grounds teams and contractors, material consistency is essential. Inconsistent or poorly suited sand can contribute to compaction, uneven surface behaviour and reduced water movement through the system. Grantex Premium Dried Sports Sand offers a water filtration rate in excess of 16,000mm/h, helping pitches remain usable during wet weather and supporting facilities that need to maximise availability throughout the year.

Its rounded particle shape and tightly controlled grading help the sand settle evenly within the surface, supporting both stabilising and performance infill applications. This premium, high-silica sports sand is fully compliant with the FIFA Quality Programme for Football Turf and World Rugby Turf Performance Specification standards and also meets the USGA grading specification.

Suitable for a wide range of synthetic sports applications, including football, rugby, hockey, padel, MUGAs and training areas, Grantex Premium Dried Sports Sand provides a dependable infill solution for facilities where performance matters.

Available in 1000kg and 1250kg bulk bags, as well as 25kg poly bags, it provides flexibility for new installations, renovation works, maintenance programmes and smaller repair projects.

As facilities plan ahead for 2027, choosing the right infill should not be seen as a minor detail. It is a key specification decision that supports drainage, durability and confidence from the ground up.

Grantex Specialist Aggregates provides dependable UK production, consistent stock availability and nationwide delivery for synthetic sports surface projects across the UK.

www.grantexaggregates.com





Grantex
Specialist Aggregates

Part of the LRS EST 1867 LONG RAKE SPAR Specialist Decorative Aggregates Group

Premium Dried Sports Sand

The Perfect Choice for **High-Performance** Synthetic Pitches



Our Premium Sports Sand is produced at our state-of-the-art production facility in Rye, East Sussex.

The sand is naturally rounded and graded to ensure a size of 0.3-1mm guaranteeing improved permeability during wet conditions.

Grantex Premium Sports Sand is available in 1000kg and 1250kg bulk bags and 25kg poly bags.





Fully compliant with the FIFA Quality Programme for Football Turf, Rugby Turf Performance specification standards and meets USGA grading specification. It can be used as either a performance or stabilising infill.

Sat Hydraulic Conductivity 16,000mm/hr





Premium Sports Sand is tested in accordance with: EN 1097-3, EN 933-1, EN 14955 and EN 12616. This product is manufactured in accordance with ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems.

SAPCA MEMBER

British Association Landscape Industries ACCREDITED

British Assessment Bureau UKAS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS 8289 ISO 9001 QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Full specification sheet is available on request.

Contact **Sam Holden** National Sales Manager | 07713 566 013 | sholden@grantexaggregates.com

01629 636210 | sales@grantexaggregates.com | grantexaggregates.com



Groundsman Turf Aerators & Sod Cutters

Since 1990, Groundsman Industries have been developing their unique range of grass maintenance machines and accessories for maximum performance and durability.

Turf Sod Cutters
Groundsman Two and Four-wheel Drive Turf Sod Cutters with large diameter ground-drive wheels deliver effortless cutting and excellent traction in all conditions. The counter-balanced flywheel crank and central connecting rod blade-drive minimise vibration levels and maximise performance and durability. The rear axle blade position in the four wheel drive machines enable them to cut unmarked wafer thin turf very accurately even on rolling terrane as well accommodating De-compaction, Mole-drain and Trench Blades to cut down to 15cm deep. A Trench Plough attachment is available to follow the blade removing the sod from the trench. Sod Blades 30cm to 60cm wide cut 1cm to 7.5cm thick sod, Cultivator Blades prepare the stripped surface for new sod, Revetting Blades cut multiple narrow strips for sod walling and bunker building, Serrated Blades cut fibre reinforced grass, scrub or heather. A Guillotine attachment can be fitted on the 9HP model to measure and chop the sod into lengths for turf nurseries and sod farms.

Turf Aerators
Two Tractor Mounting and Three Pedestrian models of Groundsman Aerators are available from 45cm to 180cm working widths. All use Groundsman's proven rugged Elliptical Plunge Action sealed bearing mechanism which move the tines proportionally horizontally as well vertical plunge enabling faster forward speed using multiple tine heads aerating down to 15cm deep with minimal surface disruption. Quick-change Vee-Spigot Twin, Triple Quad and Quint Tine Holders switch between Solid, Hollow and Chisel Tines. Needle and Micro Hollow Cluster Tine Heads for dense pattern surface aeration, thatch removal and over-seeding.

Core Collectors
Groundsman's patented Flexblade Collection system follows the contours of Greens with precision collecting the cores as they are being produced removing them cleanly from the surface without breaking and smearing them or blocking the holes. It is available from 0.8mtr to 2.3mtr widths to fit many makes of aerators as well as Groundsman to Core and Collect in one pass. The Flexblade is also available Three Point Linkage mounted for Follow-up Collection of Cores or Linear Aeration Soil effective powder dry or soaking wet.

We will be exhibiting again at SALTEX Stand C080 where we will be happy to greet and assist.

For more information please visit our new mobile phone friendly website www.groundsmanindustries.com
Email enquiries@groundsmanindustries.com
or call +44 (0)28 2766 7049







Cobra expands into professional sports turf sector with launch of Fortis Stadium 34

Cobra has announced the much-anticipated arrival of its new Fortis Stadium 34 machine, a powerful new professional cylinder mower designed specifically for semi-professional and professional sports turf environments. Engineered for football pitches, cricket squares, golf facilities, bowls greens and sports academies, the new model marks a major step forward for Cobra as it fully enters the professional sports turf category.

The Fortis Stadium 34 represents a significant evolution for Cobra, bringing together modern turfcare technology with the experience and heritage of Henton & Chattell's 95 years in the garden machinery industry. Designed to deliver precision cutting, versatility and long-term reliability, the machine is aimed squarely at grounds teams seeking professional performance with practical affordability.

To meet the evolving needs of modern grounds teams, Cobra is launching the Fortis Stadium 34 in two configurations; a Honda-powered petrol model for proven performance, and an EGO battery-powered model offering the same 34" cut with reduced noise, zero emissions at the point of use and lower running costs - ideal for stadiums where sustainability and noise control are priorities. Offering both power options provides facilities with the flexibility to adopt battery technology at their own pace while maintaining operational reliability. For large pitches and extended mowing sessions, the Fortis Stadium 34 can be fitted with an optional premium trailer seat, helping to reduce operator fatigue while maintaining precise control.

At the heart of the Fortis Stadium 34 is a precision-engineered cylinder cutting system, designed to deliver the immaculate striped finish and consistent cutting performance required on sports surfaces. Whether maintaining football pitches, cricket outfields, golf approaches or bowls greens, the Fortis Stadium 34 provides the control and accuracy grounds professionals demand.

The mower is fully compatible with the Fortis Turf Management Cartridge System, enabling operators to quickly switch between interchangeable lawncare cartridges. This allows grounds teams to carry out a wide range of essential turf maintenance tasks with one machine, including aeration, scarification, verticutting and brushing — keeping playing surfaces in peak condition throughout the season.

The launch of the Fortis Stadium 34 signals Cobra's strategic move into a key segment of the professional turf market: the mid-tier professional user. This includes organisations such as grassroots and championship football clubs, universities, sports academies and professional grounds maintenance contractors. These facilities often require professional-grade turf equipment but seek a more accessible alternative to elite stadium machinery.

Peter Chaloner, managing director of Cobra, discusses how by combining professional capability with competitive pricing, Cobra is positioning the Fortis Stadium range as a new challenger within the sports turf sector: "Our new Fortis Stadium mower bridges the gap between traditional professional turf capability and practical operational flexibility — ideal for grounds teams transitioning from petrol to battery or needing both. We have designed them with the operator in mind, giving ultimate control and comfort during long mowing sessions with precision cutting and all while keeping budgets in mind".

The move into professional sports turf reinforces Cobra's commitment to developing equipment that meets the needs of modern grounds teams, while maintaining the brand's reputation for delivering performance, reliability and value.

For more information on Cobra visit www.cobragarden.co.uk.

ISEKI Brings a Host of UK Firsts and Electric Innovation to SALTEX 2026

ISEKI UK & Ireland is set for an exciting SALTEX 2026, with the UK debut of the AllTrec 7510F fully electric out-front commercial mower, the first exhibition appearance of Raymo's second-generation R42 Flex Deck and R52 Turf Deck, the latest version of the electric ISEKI SXGE216, and the launch of the new ISEKI Sports Turf Scheme.

Alongside these new additions, visitors will be able to explore ISEKI's established range of compact tractors and professional mowers, with the ISEKI team on hand throughout the show to discuss machinery for sports turf, groundcare, local authority, contractor and amenity applications.

AllTrec 7510F Makes its UK Debut

Taking centre stage will be the AllTrec 7510F, which will be shown on UK soil for the very first time at SALTEX.

The fully electric out-front commercial mower represents an exciting new direction for professional groundcare, combining serious commercial capability with the advantages of fully electric operation.

Designed from the ground up for professional users, the AllTrec 7510F opens up new possibilities for contractors, local authorities, sports facilities, estates and operators working in noise-sensitive and environmentally conscious locations.

Adding to its versatility, the AllTrec 7510F is available with three professional mowing options: a 60-inch deck, a 72-inch deck and a 1.6m Müthing flail mower. This ability to move from high-output rotary mowing to more demanding flail applications makes the 7510F a true stand-out in its class and demonstrates that electric power does not have to come at the expense of versatility.

Rather than simply being an electric alternative to a conventional mower, the AllTrec 7510F has been developed as a professional commercial machine in its own right, bringing electric power into applications where performance, versatility and productivity remain essential.

Its appearance at SALTEX will give the UK groundcare industry its first opportunity to see the AllTrec 7510F up close, making it one of the key machines to look out for at this year's show.

Second-Generation Raymo Decks Make Their Exhibition Debut

ISEKI UK & Ireland will also showcase Raymo at SALTEX, with the second-generation R42 Flex Deck and R52 Turf Deck being exhibited for the first time.

The newly redesigned decks represent the latest evolution of the Raymo platform, building on the versatility of its remote-controlled electric power unit and further expanding its capabilities across a wide range of professional mowing applications.

The R42 Flex Deck has been redesigned to enhance performance across challenging and undulating terrain, while the R52 Turf Deck provides a wider mowing solution for maintaining larger areas of fine and amenity turf.

Their SALTEX debut will give visitors the first opportunity to see the second-generation deck designs up close, alongside the wider Raymo range.

Raymo will sit alongside the new AllTrec 7510F, bringing together some of the latest developments in professional electric mowing on the ISEKI stand.

ISEKI Launches New Sports Turf Scheme

SALTEX 2026 will also see the official unveiling of the new ISEKI Sports Turf Scheme, created specifically to support grassroots football clubs.

The scheme brings together a complete, ready-to-work sports turf machinery package at a fixed cost, providing clubs with a straightforward route to the equipment required to maintain and improve their playing surfaces.

At the heart of the package is an ISEKI compact tractor paired with a dedicated sports turf maintenance tool and a dual roller mower, giving grassroots clubs a versatile combination of machinery for both regular pitch maintenance and mowing.

By bringing the tractor, sports turf maintenance tool and dual roller mower together into one package, the scheme is designed to remove much of the complexity involved in selecting and sourcing individual pieces of machinery. Clubs can instead access a complete package designed around the core requirements of maintaining a quality football pitch.

The full package will be displayed within the Community Sports Zone at SALTEX, where grassroots clubs, grounds teams and volunteers will be able to see the machinery together and speak to the ISEKI team about how the scheme could support their facilities.

The initiative underlines ISEKI's commitment to grassroots sport and to making professional-quality groundcare machinery more accessible to clubs working to improve the standard of their pitches.

The ISEKI Range at SALTEX

Alongside the headline launches, ISEKI will have its familiar line-up of compact tractors and professional mowers on display, showcasing machinery designed for a broad range of professional groundcare applications.

Continuing the electric theme across this year's stand, ISEKI will also showcase the latest version of the SXGE216 fully electric ride-on mower. The SXGE216 will join the AllTrec 7510F and Raymo to demonstrate the growing range of electric solutions available for professional groundcare applications.

The ISEKI team and dealer network will be on hand throughout the show to discuss machinery requirements, applications and the latest developments across the range.

With the UK premiere of the AllTrec 7510F, the exhibition debut of Raymo's second-generation R42 Flex Deck and R52 Turf Deck, the latest SXGE216, the launch of the ISEKI Sports Turf Scheme, and a comprehensive display of ISEKI compact tractors and mowers, SALTEX 2026 will provide plenty for visitors to discover.

Visit ISEKI UK & Ireland at SALTEX 2026 to be among the first to see the AllTrec 7510F on UK soil, discover the latest second-generation developments from Raymo, see the latest SXGE216 and explore the new ISEKI Sports Turf Scheme.

Cuts and Collects in the WET and the DRY



ISEKI 100th ANNIVERSARY SINCE 1926

Whether you are mowing your lawn, an estate or numerous contracts, the new ISEKI SXG324 and SXG327 ride-on mowers cut and collect superbly in wet or dry conditions leaving a superior finish.

Designed and engineered to offer the most reliable, high quality diesel mower on the markert for the most demanding of users.

Contact your local dealer to book a demo on your premises today!

ISEKI

www.iseki.co.uk



The Right Machine for the job: How Long Sutton Golf Club is Combining Robots and Trailed Mowers.

At Long Sutton Golf Club, robots and Trimax trailed mowers are working side by side to improve productivity, free up valuable staff time and keep a demanding parkland course under control.

At Long Sutton Golf Club in Somerset, three robotic mowers work through the night cutting the fairways. By day, Trimax Pegasus and Snake trailed rotary mowers tackle the first cut, heavier growth and the leaf litter and debris that come with maintaining an extensive parkland course.

For Course Manager Jonathan Tulk, the combination is proving more productive than relying on either approach alone.

The right machine for the job

Set across approximately 142 acres, Long Sutton is maintained by a four-person greenkeeping team. With rising diesel costs and the increasing price of dedicated fairway machinery, the club introduced robotic mowers as a more cost-effective way of maintaining its fairways.

The robots have performed well, but their biggest benefit has been the time they have released for the team.

"The biggest benefit we have seen since installing the robots is our ability to prioritise our workload," says Jonathan. "Our staff aren't spending hours sat on fairway mowers and now have more time to manage other tasks, including aerating, fixing irrigation problems and other projects that wouldn't have got prioritised."

The robots take care of the repetitive fairway mowing, while the Trimax mowers handle areas and conditions where speed, capacity and robustness are more important.

Built for demanding parkland conditions

As a heavily wooded parkland course, Long Sutton faces a particular challenge: windy conditions can leave considerable quantities of leaves, twigs and small branches across the course - material that can damage the blades of robotic mowers.

This is where the Trimax Pegasus and Snake come into their own.

"We use the Trimax mowers for our first cut because of the leaf litter and debris, especially after storms. The robots wouldn't be able to cope with small twigs or branches."

The ability to deal with these conditions while covering large areas quickly is a key reason Long Sutton continues to rely on its Trimax mowers.

"We like using Trimax because the quality of cut is really high. The speed in which we can get the ground covered is very good, and the reliability of the machines is second to none."

Productivity when it matters

For a four-person team responsible for maintaining 142 acres to a high



standard, productivity is critical. Having the Trimax mowers available means large areas can be tackled rapidly when conditions demand it.

"We find it very valuable having a machine that can mow a large amount of space in a short period of time," says Jonathan. "With the Trimax Pegasus and Snake working side by side, we can get our cutting done in a day if we have to."

That capacity becomes particularly valuable after periods of rain, when grass growth can accelerate rapidly.

"When we do have rain, this place can grow like a grass factory. We can obviously cover the ground very quickly, especially when we have the two Trimax mowers running side by side."



More versatility from the tractor

The trailed design also gives Long Sutton greater flexibility across its machinery fleet. Because the Trimax Pegasus and Snake are trailed mowers, once cutting is complete, the tractor can be put to work elsewhere on the course with implements such as an aerator or trailer. For a small team, that flexibility can make better use of existing machinery and reduce the need for dedicated equipment. The enclosed, air-conditioned cab also helps keep operators comfortable and protected from the elements, particularly during long periods of mowing.

This versatility is backed by a long track record of reliability. Long Sutton has used Trimax equipment for around 10 years, with its most recent Pegasus purchased approximately four years ago.

"Other than changing the blades once a year and replacing the roller bearings once, I haven't touched it."

A complementary approach

For Jonathan, the experience demonstrates that autonomous and traditional trailed mowing don't need to compete. By assigning each machine to the work it is best equipped to handle, the club has increased productivity while creating more time for other essential course maintenance.

"The key benefits that we have found running the robots and Trimax together are the productivity, the reliability and the efficiency that we are achieving day in, day out."

And despite the success of robotic mowing, Jonathan doesn't see it replacing machines such as the Pegasus and Snake.

"There are so many benefits to machines like Trimax mowers for their speed, productivity, coping with leaf litter and debris, which a robot can't do."

For Long Sutton, the future of mowing isn't about choosing between robotics and traditional machinery. It's about using both intelligently - and putting the right machine to work in the right place.

To discover how Trimax equipment can help improve productivity across golf course roughs, semi-roughs and surrounds, visit trimaxmowers.co.uk.

Carl Sharp takes the lead on Golf at KAR UK



KAR UK has announced that Carl Sharp will now be leading its Golf division, becoming the main point of contact for golf customers across the UK and Ireland.

Carl brings extensive hands-on experience from within the golf industry, having worked in greenkeeping and golf course management roles both in the UK and overseas. His practical understanding of the day-to-day challenges faced by Course Managers and greenkeeping teams, combined with his technical knowledge of irrigation systems, places him in an ideal position to support golf clubs and contractors throughout the region.

Since joining KAR UK, Carl has worked closely with customers on a wide range of Hunter Golf irrigation projects, providing technical expertise, product advice and on-site support. In his new role, he will continue to help clubs with everything from new irrigation installations and system upgrades to fault finding, training and ongoing technical support.

The appointment reflects KAR UK's continued commitment to providing practical, knowledgeable support to the golf industry. Customers can expect the same personal service, with Carl continuing to spend time out on golf courses, working directly alongside Course Managers, Head Greenkeepers and contractors to deliver tailored irrigation solutions. Commenting on his new role, Carl said: "I'm delighted to be leading Golf at KAR UK and look forward to continuing to build relationships with golf clubs and contractors across the UK and Ireland. Having worked in greenkeeping myself, I understand the importance of reliable irrigation and responsive support. I'm excited to help customers get the very best from their systems and support them with both existing installations and future projects."

With a number of exciting projects and developments planned over the coming months, KAR UK remains focused on helping golf facilities maximise the performance and efficiency of their irrigation systems.

For advice on Hunter Golf irrigation systems, new projects, upgrades, technical support or training, customers are encouraged to contact Carl Sharp and the KAR UK team.

For more information, please visit www.karuk.com

You can also follow KAR UK on X and Instagram @KARUK_LTD for much more news, reviews and insightful views.





Origin proves the right partner for ETC Sports Surfaces

For contractors ETC Sports Surfaces, the combination of dependable products, responsive supply and a partnership approach makes Origin Amenity Solutions (OAS) a natural fit for their expanding maintenance operation. Director and Maintenance Manager Rory Wells explains how, from a straight-forward supply of chemicals and linemarking paint, a reciprocal relationship has blossomed creating new business opportunities for both parties.

Founded by Rory's father Simon in 1987, ETC delivers all aspects of sports surface installation and maintenance, serving facilities primarily across London and the South East. Today, approximately 70% of their work comes from repeat customers - demonstrating the value placed on continuity and quality of service. "We've used products from OAS and formally Rigby Taylor for a good number of years" explains Rory. "Most notably we've relied on paint from the Duraline range which we've always found delivers outstanding results on tennis courts, artificial sports pitches and other hard surfaces."

For ETC, consistency is just as important as performance. "This paint is really bright and colourful and, depending on weathering, delivers a long-lasting finish appreciated by the clients and by us." He continues, "We know we can take a customer to a site where we've used the Duraline paint, and it's going to be a glowing example of what that venue can expect to achieve with us."

Alongside sourcing products for their own operation, ongoing open dialogue with OAS Project Manager Peter Read has seen the ETC team pick up projects on the contracting side of Origin's business. "Peter has always been fantastic to work alongside - a fountain of knowledge and great support - so it's great to now be working more closely with one another to bring the benefits of great products and first-class maintenance to even more sports surfaces across the country."

With a comprehensive product portfolio, Origin support contractors spanning the sports turf, amenity and landscaping sectors - providing them with the products to complete line marking and turf maintenance tasks through to renovations, plant establishment, nutrition and ongoing surface care. Peter Read added, "This service and support is available to contractors throughout the UK and we pride ourselves on working in partnership with these businesses to provide the tools they need to complete both one-off renovations and year-round maintenance."

Rory concludes, "Because they have their own division, Origin understand what is important to us as contractors. They've got the products, the people and, importantly, they're reliable. It works for us because it's a partnership and not just a transaction of buying and selling products."

www.originamenity.com



Synthetic Turf Pitches Become a Water Resource at University College Dublin

A landmark synthetic turf project at University College Dublin (UCD) has enabled sports pitches to capture and store rainfall for use across the site, including irrigating the natural grass pitches alongside them.

The project began in February 2025 and remains ongoing, forming part of a broader expansion of UCD's sports facilities, including creating a modern indoor sports hall. Accommodating the new hall meant relocating UCD's existing synthetic turf pitches, which in turn presented the opportunity for a full reset and upgrade of the playing surfaces.

Water management was central to the design from the outset. UCD's Belfield campus was originally a site of extensive green space, but decades of growth have added numerous buildings to house its expanding facilities. Run-off from those rooves and hard surfaces needed managing, and the new pitches provide a solution that can do exactly this while still offering a high-quality playing surface.

A series of attenuation tanks were designed and installed beneath the pitches, with capacity to hold the large volume of water draining through the synthetic surface. The tanks were set within a permeable aggregate matrix, adding further temporary attenuation as water percolates through the pitches. Stormtech tanks and pipework were installed by CubicM3 | Microstrain Ltd, with Tony Patterson Sportsgrounds delivering the pitch works.

Ground conditions presented the main obstacle. The pitches sit on very poor ground, and considerable improvement works were required before the tank foundations could be laid and the pitches built over them.

Daniel McGeever, Project Engineer - University College Dublin, said: "The pitches have provided our students and the wider



community with high-quality synthetic turf surfaces to play on, which was always the primary aim. What the water management solution adds is a secondary benefit alongside that. We have avoided discharging into the local authority drainage system because the run-off is successfully attenuated on site, and that stored water is a genuine resource for us."

Synthetic turf pitches have a lifecycle measured in decades, typically 10-12 years, and the water management system designed into the build will function across that entire period. Over the extended timescale, the financial return on this approach can be significant.



Stefan Diderich, Director General/CEO at EMEA Synthetic Turf Council (ESTC), said: "What makes this project stand out is how much a single piece of infrastructure is able to deliver. The synthetic turf pitches provide the playing capacity a growing university needs, while at the same time helping the campus manage its water sustainably.

"It is a great example of synthetic and natural surfaces working together rather than in isolation, with water captured beneath one supporting the other. As regulation around surface water tightens across Europe, we expect more estates managers to look at what their facilities can contribute beyond sport."

Find out more about water management with synthetic turf at https://estc.info/synthetic-turf-benefits/water-management/

Faster topdressing from yard to green



Topdressing places demands on staff time long before the first grain of sand reaches the turf. By mechanising loading, spreading and brushing in, GreenTek helps greenkeeping teams make better use of their labour and keep the job moving.

A topdresser can cover a green remarkably quickly. Keeping it supplied with sand, then working that sand into the surface, can take considerably longer. Add repeated journeys back to the yard and the task soon ties up machinery and staff for much of the day.

For a greenkeeping team fitting work around play and the weather, those delays matter. The available window may be short, while mowing, bunker preparation and the rest of the daily workload still need attention.

GreenTek approaches topdressing as a complete operation. Its Easy-Load loader, StarGreen topdressers and range of specialist brushes enable the process to be mechanised from the bulk stockpile through to the finished surface. Matching the equipment at each stage helps prevent one part of the job holding up the next.

Bring the sand to the work

The first opportunity to save time often lies between the yard and the green. Returning an empty topdresser to the stockpile after every load means the spreading machine spends a substantial part of its working day travelling.

The Easy-Load changes that arrangement. Loaded mechanically in the yard, it carries up to three tonnes of topdressing out to the area being treated. Its high tipping action and loading chute allow sand to be transferred directly into the topdresser beside the greens or fairways where it is working, without shovelling.

The topdresser stays close to the job, stopping for a refill rather than making another round trip. On a course where the maintenance yard is some distance from the greens, removing those journeys can make a considerable difference to the time needed to complete the programme.

The Easy-Load has a flow control gate for loading, with flotation tyres positioned outside the body to provide stability when tipping. Its dual-purpose tailgate also allows

conventional tipping, so the same three-tonne trailer can earn its keep moving bulk materials throughout the year.

Match the topdresser to the surface

Once the supply of material is organised, the spreading machine needs to suit the working area and the vehicles already available. The StarGreen range offers a truck-mounted model and three tractor-towed options, covering golf greens through to fairways, sports pitches and larger contractor or council operations.

For golf greens, the TD700DM is a firm favourite. Mounted on a suitable utility vehicle such as a John Deere ProGator or Toro Workman, it combines a 700-litre hopper with the manoeuvrability needed to work around greens and tees.

Adjustable conveyor belt and spinner speeds allow the operator to set the delivery and spread, with remote switching from the cab. A hydraulic rear flow gate controls discharge, while the cleated belt feeds sand to twin spreading discs. Mounting brackets and a demount stand kit are included, allowing the unit to be removed when the vehicle is needed for other duties.

Where a compact tractor is the preferred power unit, the TD700T offers the same 700-litre hopper, holding approximately 1.2 tonnes of topdressing. Its four turf tyres run on pivoting axles to follow contours and distribute the load.

For larger areas, the TD1500T increases hopper capacity to 1,500 litres, or approximately 2.5 tonnes. It is suited to fairways and sports grounds where greater capacity helps reduce the frequency of refilling.

The largest model, the TD3000T, carries approximately five tonnes in its 3,000-litre hopper. Wide flotation tyres spread the load, while full in-cab controls, hydraulic brakes and road lighting make it a practical choice for contractors and other large-scale users.

Across the range, British manufacture and fully welded steel construction provide a tough machine for regular work. The steelwork is shot blasted, zinc









primed and powder coated for years of reliable use. The stainless steel spreading vanes are adjustable, allowing the spreading pattern to be fine-tuned.

Finish the job with the right brush

Efficient spreading needs to be followed by effective incorporation. A heavy dressing after hollow coring presents a different task from a light application during the playing season, and the brush should be chosen accordingly.

For heavy dressings and filling core holes, the Sweep-N-Fill Mk3 uses two contra-rotating brushes to lift the sand and let it fall into the holes. The brushes are driven by the ground wheels, so their action remains related to forward speed, and each brush floats independently to follow the green's contours.

This active brushing action helps work substantial dressings into the surface and fill the holes, reducing the amount of sand left lying on top. An electric lift ram and adjustable hitch allow it to be used behind a suitable utility vehicle, greensmower or bunker rake, giving the team flexibility over the towing unit.

For regular medium or light dressings, the Greens-Groomer provides a straightforward way to work sand down between the grass blades. Its zigzag brush arrangement moves material sideways as well as forwards, helping disperse it across the surface. Available in 1.8m and 3.6m widths, it can be matched to greens or larger areas.

Undulating greens bring another consideration: retaining an even distribution over crowns and hollows. Thatch-Away Topdressing Brush cassettes fit to a triplex greensmower and closely follow the contours, helping brush material into the sward without dragging it away from high points and accumulating it in low areas. They also stand the grass up before mowing and disperse dew.

Get more use from the same equipment

For teams looking for a brush with a wider everyday role, the Maxi-Brush and Multi-Brush both combine topdressing work with general turf grooming.

The Maxi-Brush can be configured as a six-row, 1.8m topdressing brush, then opened out to 5.4m for brushing fairways and sports pitches. Manual folding is available, with optional hydraulic folding for easier movement between working areas.

The Multi-Brush also converts between a compact topdressing configuration and a 5.4m working width. Its three independently floating heads follow undulations, and hydraulic folding makes transport straightforward. Opened out, both machines cover wide areas efficiently, standing up the grass and dispersing dew before mowing.

That versatility makes it easier to justify equipment which contributes to routine presentation as well as renovation. Together with mechanised loading and an appropriately sized topdresser, it gives the greenkeeping team a practical way to complete more topdressing within the time available, while releasing staff for the other jobs that keep the course ready for play.

For further information or to arrange a demonstration, visit www.greentek.com or contact your local GreenTek dealer.



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Two Decades of Trust: Why Radley College Continues to Choose MM Seed



When you've spent more than 25 years looking after some of the country's busiest school sports facilities, consistency becomes invaluable. For Adam King, Head of Grounds at Radley College, that's exactly why MM Seed has remained his first choice for more than two decades.

Set within the Oxfordshire countryside, Radley College is home to an extensive range of sports facilities. The team maintains 14 rugby pitches, which become 16 football pitches during the winter, nine cricket squares, a nine-hole golf course and extensive college grounds, supporting around 770 boarding pupils throughout the year.

"It's all about making sport happen," says Adam. "The boys are at their happiest when they're out playing. They learn just as much about teamwork and life on the sports field as they do in the classroom."

Keeping those facilities performing at the highest standard demands

products that can be relied upon year after year. For Adam, that relationship with MM Seed began with a visit to one of the company's production facilities in the Netherlands, where he saw first-hand the research, development and quality control behind every seed mixture.

"It really opened my eyes," he explains. "You realise just how much research goes into developing new grasses. Some of the work they're doing today has been ten years in the making. Seeing how clean everything was and the care that goes into producing the final product gave me a huge amount of confidence."

That confidence has only grown over the years.

"The cultivars within the MM mixtures have always been excellent," says Adam. "They've consistently stayed at the top of the list. We've trialled individual cultivars over the years as well, including Melbourne, which I absolutely loved for cricket. It's been great having that relationship where we're able to trial new grasses and see what works."

Perhaps the greatest endorsement comes from the fact that, despite trying alternative products over the years, Adam always finds himself returning to MM50 for cricket square renovations.

"We've used MM50 for more than 20 years," he says. "Every now and again we've renovated a square with another manufacturer's seed just to make sure we're still getting the best product. Every single time we've gone back to MM50. That's testament to its consistency."

That consistency is evident in every stage of the renovation process.

"We get excellent wear tolerance, strong recovery, good germination and a healthy sward going into winter. Those are the things that matter."

Even during one of the driest summers in recent years, when renovation timings were dictated by prolonged drought, Adam remained confident in the seed's ability to perform once moisture returned.

"This year has been really challenging," he explains. "We renovated early but then had virtually no rainfall. Once we started getting some moisture back, the seed came through well. We've seen similar conditions before and MM50 has always established strongly once the weather turns in our favour."

Alongside MM50, Radley College also uses MM60 alongside MM Tetrasport across winter sports pitches and MM9 on the golf course, giving Adam confidence across every area of the site.

For Adam, however, it isn't just about one successful product.

"I think there are three things everybody wants from seed: good cultivars, good germination and cleanliness. MM consistently delivers all three."

He has also become a firm believer in MM Seed's Headstart coating technology after initially approaching coated seed with some scepticism.

"I was probably like a lot of people and wondered whether coatings really made much difference," he says. "But when you compare it with an uncoated seed, the plant just seems stronger. You get that little bit of extra vigour during establishment, whether that's quicker rooting or stronger early growth. Sometimes that's all you need to give the grass the best possible start."

With increasingly unpredictable weather patterns, Adam believes flexibility has become just as important as product choice.

"We can no longer stick to a fixed renovation calendar," he says. "We have to work with the weather and adapt our timings. That's just part of modern grounds management."

What hasn't changed is the confidence he places in MM Seed.

"When you've been using a product for over 20 years and you keep coming back to it, that tells its own story. It's the consistency that makes the difference."

Visit the new and improved MM Seed website at www.mm-seeds.co.uk

Understanding Nitrogen Sources for Effective Winter Fertiliser Application

By Kelly-Marie Clack, UK Technical Manager, Origin Amenity Solutions

Choosing the right fertiliser in the winter months can be challenging, so it's important to understand your specific goals before application.

It is not about the analysis on the bag, but the nitrogen sources used to make the analysis.

A fertiliser analysis of 6.5.18, applied at 35g/m2 will provide 21kg of nitrogen per ha. To understand how the turf is going to respond we need to know the nitrogen sources used.

Nitrate and Ammonium nitrogen will provide a quick and visible turf response. Improved growth, vigour, colour and sward density is often observed.

Urea or Organic nitrogen will take longer to respond as they need to be changed in the soil to be made plant available.

In early spring, when soil temperatures are still low, soil microbes are less active and cannot effectively break down nitrogen into plant-available forms. Therefore, it's essential to know which nitrogen sources in your fertiliser are immediately available to plants and what kind of turf response you can expect after application.

Plants absorb nitrogen through their roots in a soluble form, either as ammonium (NH_4^+) or nitrate (NO_3^-). These are considered plant-available forms of nitrogen, meaning fertilisers containing them typically produce a quick turf response.

If ammonium is not immediately taken up by the plant, it can remain in the soil's cation exchange sites (CEC) until needed for growth, or it may undergo nitrification. During this process, Nitrosomonas bacteria convert ammonium into nitrite (NO_2^-), and Nitrobacter bacteria then convert nitrite into nitrate - a form readily available to plants. However, this process also depends on sufficient soil temperature.



Organic fertilisers and soil organic matter must first undergo mineralisation, where soil microbes break down organic nitrogen into ammonium that plants can then use for growth. For mineralisation to occur, soil temperatures must be above 5°C. Similarly, urea-based fertilisers rely on urease enzymes to convert urea into ammonium.

Because these nitrogen sources require transformation before plants can use them, the turf's growth response is slower, with minimal immediate visual impact compared to using directly available nitrogen forms.

A question always asked is how much nitrogen should I apply?

There is no simple answer to this question however, visual assessment and data collection can provide guidance to this:

Assess growth, colour and response to play and stress. Insufficient nitrogen will lead to yellow and stunted growth. Turf is then left susceptible to turfgrass diseases and pests.

Measure clip volume to have a better understanding of when your turf requires a nitrogen input. You want turf growth to recover from play and no more to achieve optimum performance and plant health.

Monitor the weather forecast and understand what impacts this has on your surfaces, for example, on sand-based constructions the CEC is likely to be low therefore heavy rain could lead to leaching of nutrients and further nitrogen inputs may be required.

Take soil samples and trends the results over time to understand what impact your fertiliser input is having on your soil chemistry. Soil moisture balance is important for soil and plant health, stress management and nutrient uptake.

Surfaces need to meet the visual requirements and expectations of the turf managers, and the performance needs to meet the expectations of players. Whilst trying to look after our environments in a responsible and sustainable manner.

Many products will contain a variety of nitrogen sources formulated together to provide a consistent release of nutrients. Nitrates, ammonium, urea, methylene urea and resin coated, controlled release urea; can be incorporated to produce products tailored to turf manager's requirements. Whether it's a cold temperature growth response, recovery from wear damage or to promote resilience through periods of high stress, these formulated products enable turf managers to select the product most suited to their needs.

For tailored advice on fertiliser selection and nutrient management through the colder months, contact the technical team at Origin Amenity Solutions on 0800 138 7222 or email sales@originamenity.com

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Precision in practice: Simon Hughes (Origin) demonstrates the lightweight design and tablet-controlled accuracy of the TinyMobileRobots system at Orwell Park School.

Master of the Mark: Simon Hughes Showcases the Future of Autonomous Line Marking

Against the historic backdrop of Ipswich's Orwell Park School, Origin's Line Marking Sales Manager demonstrates why the future of the industry is autonomous.

For Simon Hughes, a demo day is more than just a date in the diary; it is an opportunity to witness the "lightbulb moment" when a grounds manager realises their workload is about to be significantly streamlined. Recently, at the picturesque Orwell Park School in Ipswich, Simon took centre stage to showcase the latest from TinyMobileRobots, proving that elite-level precision is now accessible at the touch of a button.

As the Line Marking Sales Manager for Origin, Simon's enthusiasm is rooted in a genuine desire to solve the practical headaches of his customers. "It was a pleasure to welcome so many visitors and really get stuck into the capabilities of these machines," Simon reflects. The day featured a diverse range of demonstrations, from the standard geometry of football pitches to a bespoke 300-metre athletics track complete with a 100-metre straight. Watching the robot navigate these complex, custom curves with surgical accuracy left many seasoned professionals visibly impressed.

One of the most significant talking points of the day was the sheer simplicity of the interface. Simon guided visitors through the tablet-led system, demonstrating how intuitive the process is from the initial power-on to the first drop of paint. "Our customers were particularly struck by how user-friendly the system is," Simon explains. "But beyond the software, the hardware itself is a game-changer. The weight advantage of our machines compared to others on the market is a massive plus for turf health and ease of transport."

> *"There is a real joy in showing people that technology doesn't have to be complicated to be brilliant. When you see a robot deliver a perfect athletics track in a fraction of the usual time, you aren't just looking at a machine—you're looking at a solution that frees up vital labour to carry out other essential duties whilst the marker is at work."*
>
> **Simon Hughes, Origin.**



For Simon, the real reward is the tangible boost to operational efficiency. By mastering the precision of overmarking and automating the initial setup, he is helping clubs save significant capital on paint and labour. This efficiency allows vital man-hours to be redirected toward other essential maintenance tasks while the robot is busy painting, ensuring the "athletes" have the best possible surface. Seeing the satisfaction on a customer's face when they realise they can achieve better results with less manual strain is what keeps Simon's passion for the industry alive.

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About Golf and Turf Equipment

Established in 2020, our company was built by a team with deep roots in the original Golf and Turf Equipment from Wokingham. We set out with a clear mission: to provide a professional, bespoke alternative to main dealers—offering the same comprehensive services across all makes and models, at significantly lower rates.

Why Choose Golf and Turf?

- **Expert Technicians:** Our team consists of fully qualified, factory-trained technicians (including John Deere and Toro certifications), alongside dedicated apprentice technicians growing into full mobile roles.
- **On-Site & Mobile Repairs:** Our service vehicles function as fully equipped mobile workshops to carry out maintenance and repairs at your location—including on-site air conditioning servicing.
- **Collection & Delivery:** For larger jobs or multi-day repairs, we offer convenient transport to and from our workshop.
- **Fully Equipped Workshop:** From routine maintenance to specialised cylinder and bottom blade grinding, our facility is geared to handle equipment of any make or colour.
- **Tailored Service Contracts:** Lock in your maintenance costs with custom, fixed-rate service contracts designed around your budget and schedule.
- **Parts & Quotations:** If we don't have the parts you need in stock, our very extensive industry contacts mean we can source them quickly and at a competitive price.

Golf and Turf Equipment is an official Toro parts & service dealer.

In addition to the above, we have now become an official FJ Dynamics dealer for their range of Robotic Mowers









We will also be introducing into the UK market the Kutter model FLA1220 Front Mounted Lawn Aerator:



Kutter FLA1220 Front Lawn Aerator Specifications

Specification	Details
Engine	Honda GX690 V-Twin, air-cooled petrol
Power	22.1 hp (16.5 kW)
Displacement	688 cc
Aeration Width	1,220 mm (48 in)
Maximum Coring Depth	102 mm (4 in)
Core Diameter	6 to 16 mm
Tines	24 tines with hydraulic lubrication
Working Efficiency	0.3 to 0.6 ha/hr
Tires	19 × 10.5-8 smooth turf tires
Weight	720 kg
Start System	Key start
Package Dimensions	2230 × 1410 × 1310 mm

www.golfandturfequipment.co.uk

Why FJ Dynamics?

FJ Dynamics is a robotics company focused on digitalisation, automation, and new energy. They are committed to creating practical and affordable robots for the most labour-intensive industries and using their technology to drive digital transformation across those traditional industries for improved productivity and working environments. Today, their solutions are widely applied in agriculture, landscaping, construction, surveying, and facility services. As their business expands globally, they are excited to collaborate with partners and clients to create a better future for the world.

The FJ Dynamics Range includes the RCM01, which is a robotic professional cut cylinder mower - the Rough Ranger, one machine for multiple tasks-and the Titan, which provides high-capacity mowing for larger grounds. The range also includes the PaintMaster Pro, which provides precision marking for match-ready pitches.



To contact Golf and Turf:

For Sales - please call Max White on 07980-770-735

or Tony Reeves on 07443-276-850

Email: enquiries@golfandturfequipment.co.uk

Address: Pinegrove Farm, Mare Lane, Shurlock Row, Reading, Berkshire RG10 0QH

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Forza Moves Into Paint Products

Over the last decade, the sports brand FORZA has established itself as a leading supplier of football goals and training equipment, with clubs like Manchester United, Liverpool, and Manchester City using its products. Given their standing and the clubs they supply, you're likely already familiar with them. What you may not know is they have moved into paint products, with November marking a year since FORZA, a brand by Net World Sports, brought line-marking paint production in-house at its Wrexham HQ.

The thinking was clear. Given their natural flow of sports traffic, the company felt well placed to get a genuine feel for the market in terms of what people wanted, price point expectations, and where any potential gaps were. Those beliefs look well justified, as they have sold over 260,000 litres of paint in their first 12 months of operating. The UK has led the way in terms of sales, but there is already an appetite for the product overseas. In fact, roughly one in five units has been shipped to customers abroad across 28 different countries, with the US, Ireland, France, Germany and Austria already proving particularly popular destinations.

Speaking on their success to date, company director Robbie Hayter said: "From the outset, our goal was to create a paint offering that delivered on the same core principles as our other FORZA products. Developing paint products that were high-





quality yet affordable was our focus, and we're extremely proud that we've managed to deliver the project with such success. Utilising customer feedback and developing industry knowledge allowed us to understand what clubs, groundsmen and consumers wanted from different types of paint, and those insights were invaluable."

The process of perfecting the product was extensive, and constant control of the chemical and environmental factors has proven instrumental in ensuring their recipe is high in quality but low in cost. FORZA has developed concentrate and ready-to-use options, with the concentrate available in seven different colours. With a large number of the business' sports equipment built using materials like steel, aluminium and PVC, paint represented a step outside their usual territory, but it has paid instant dividends.

There are plans to increase their footprint on an international scale, and with the first year having more than delivered against expectations, expanding their operation is seen as a natural next step. The company's automation and components allow a wider variety of end products, and there are ambitions to move into the synthetic category. Regardless of what comes next, though, the core mission remains the same. Make a product customers love that stays affordable without accepting any compromise on those standards.

www.forza.com



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Sports turf, parkland and managed grassland rarely offer ideal mowing conditions. Grass length varies, weather windows are short and large areas have to be covered on schedule.

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deck. This delivers a clean, even cut in longer grass and wetter conditions, so mowing can continue when it is due. Clippings are distributed evenly, which leaves far less cleanup work.

The low power requirement allows wider working widths on the same tractor. More area is covered per hour, which saves labour and tractor hours and reduces fuel use. The electric blade drive keeps noise and maintenance low.

The finish goes beyond what is expected from a rotary mower. Seeing is believing.

For UK customers, a dealer network is being established, so that purchase, service and support are available locally. Contact us for the nearest dealer or to arrange a demonstration.

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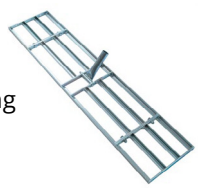




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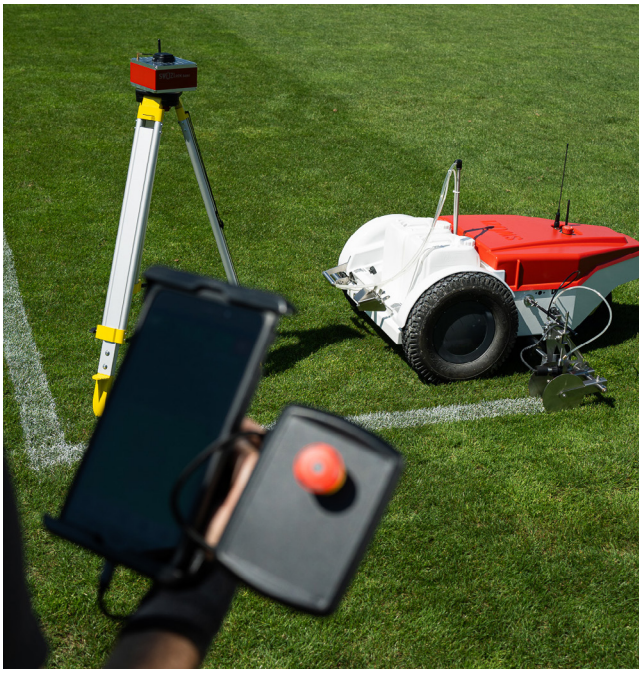


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GroundTech secures UK Distribution for SWOZI linemarkers

GroundTech, one of the country's principal suppliers of autonomous and specialist groundcare and turf maintenance equipment, are pleased to announce their appointment as the exclusive UK-wide distributor for SWOZI - globally recognised as leading manufacturers of high-performance linemarking equipment.

Effective immediately, this new partnership strengthens GroundTech's offering to sports clubs, schools and community venues around the country by bringing the full SWOZI linemarker range to the UK market, backed by renowned sales, service and aftercare support.

SWOZI is a Swiss sports technology company with strong foundations in machine automation. The cutting-edge GPS and robotic technology embedded within their professional range helps to improve efficiency, simplify workflows and meet sporting codes with 100% accuracy. At the forefront of the range is the SWOZI Auto, an advanced linemarker engineered for robust reliability, accuracy and consistency. Ideal for high-use environments where performance and efficiency are key, the SWOZI Auto features intuitive operation and automated paint flow control for reduced paint waste.

Alongside the SWOZI Auto is a range of semi-autonomous and manual markers, with a variety of configurations and spray systems to suit different budgets and marking requirements. All SWOZI machines are designed with operator comfort, ease of use and long service life in mind, giving you complete control over linemarking whether you manage a single pitch or multiple sites.

"The combination of GroundTech's established UK market presence and customer relationships with SWOZI's technological expertise results in a strong partnership with clear customer benefits" says Marc Burgunder, Marketing & Sales Manager at SWOZI.

A sentiment echoed by GroundTech Director Marcus Glover, "SWOZI's reputation for quality and innovation aligns perfectly with our commitment to supply industry-leading maintenance solutions to the professional market. The SWOZI Auto in particular delivers an outstanding solution for customers looking to improving marking accuracy and productivity, without the financial outlay associated with other robotic markers currently available."

For more information on the SWOZI range, or to arrange a demonstration, get in touch with GroundTech's expert technical team via groundtech.co.uk.

Only the best Groundwork, Drainage and Pipework products

Rouden Pipetek Ltd supplies and distributes Drainage and Pipework products from the UK's leading manufacturers. We predominantly distribute to groundwork, construction, civil engineering, and agricultural companies. We are committed to providing a first-class service and competitively priced products to all of our clients. Due to our longstanding presence within the industry (we commenced trading in May 2001), we have become reliable distributors to some of the smallest and largest businesses in the UK. Whether your requirement is for a length of pipe or a motorway drainage system, our sales team can provide a cost-effective solution to suit your needs.

To ensure our products reach you as quickly as possible, we have four Branches in the South of England. These are located in Horsham, West Sussex, Maidstone, Kent, Cullompton, Devon and Petersfield, Hampshire. All of our large storage and distribution sites are fully stocked, and boast a vast and comprehensive range of pipework systems and associated products.

> *Whether your requirement is for a length of pipe or a motorway drainage system, our sales team can provide a cost-effective solution to suit your needs.*

Rouden Pipetek offers a next day delivery service, with other delivery options available depending on customer requirements. Our fleet of specialist delivery vehicles and fully qualified drivers, get the products to our customers safely and efficiently.

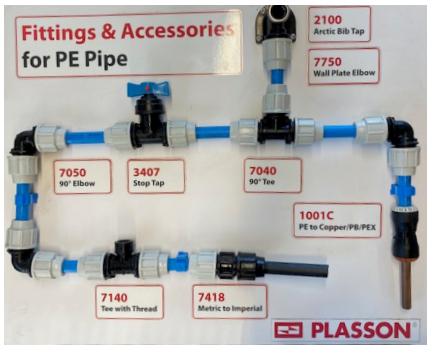
Rouden Pipetek is a one-stop facility for civil engineering, building and construction companies, whilst also supplying, sports ground contractors, utility and telecommunications contractors. We are also proud to supply specialist water feature and building services companies, as well as agricultural contractors.

Our product range includes, but is certainly not limited to the following;

Foul Water Drainage Systems (plastic & clay), Surface Water Drainage Systems, Twinwall Service Ducting, Street light and Traffic Signal Ducting, Land Drainage Pipework and Geothermal Heating Systems.

We also offer a Specialist Fabrication service, Barrier Pipe Systems, Sewage Treatment Plants, and Manhole Covers and Frames. Other lines include Linear Channel Drainage Systems, Grass Reinforcement, Geotextile Membranes, Attenuation Crates and PVCu and ABS Chemical Pipework Systems. For a comprehensive list of our products and further information, simply visit our Products page.

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Our extensive product range includes the RM-2 Rainmaker internet-based 2-wire controller, TW-3 2-wire and 3-wire controller, decoders for 2 wire and 3 wire systems, NG decoders that work with our RM-2 and convenient NFC app for programming, testing and applying notes. An additional wide selection of irrigation components, fault-finding and electrical testing equipment.

We also supply an impressive range of specialist Underhill products designed to make everyday maintenance easier and more efficient. These include precision hand-watering nozzles, PelletPro and LiquidPro wetting agent applicators, TurfSpy early stress detection glasses, soil sampling tools, irrigation auditing equipment and essential sprinkler maintenance tools such as EasyOut, EasyReach, Double Header valve key and SuperKey. Our GulpPro and PowerGulp water removal pumps, together with the DrainBlaster nozzle, provide practical solutions for excess water, unblocking and drainage maintenance.

More Than Just Products

What sets TWL Irrigation apart is our commitment to customer service, technical advice and ongoing support. Whether identifying irrigation faults, providing replacement components, upgrading existing systems or planning new installations, our knowledgeable team is on hand to help customers find the right solution.

We specialise in cost-effective retrofit options, helping customers modernise existing irrigation systems without the expense and disruption of complete replacement wherever possible.

From initial enquiries through to installation advice and ongoing maintenance support, TWL Irrigation is dedicated to helping customers achieve efficient, dependable irrigation performance.

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Terrain Aeration celebrates 50 years

Terrain Aeration's Terralift system celebrates 50 years of successful deep aeration treatment of bowling greens, sports turf, golf clubs, parks, trees and more.

At the end of September, when bowling clubs are thinking about carrying out end of season maintenance, aeration is a concept that is thought about but rarely addressed. Scarifying, re-seeding, and top dressing are on the front line of the main budget planning. Forgotten are the days when games had to stop play because the ground was waterlogged. A nuisance at the time, but now is the time to bring this problem up at a committee meeting and address it.

The Terrain Aeration Scamper Terralift machine was designed 20 years ago to be able to access most bowling greens. The Scamper Terralift machine hammers a hollow probe (1 1/2" (37mm width) one metre into the soil before releasing a controlled blast of compressed air, to a maximum of 20Bar/280 psi. This pressure is monitored or changed by the operator, so there is a slight movement of the top surface before the turf settles back down. Then, the operator knows that he has aerated the ground from one metre to the top surface. On the tail end of the release of compressed air, dried seaweed is incorporated which sticks to the walls of the fractures and fissures created by the main air blast.

Over a period, the seaweed expands and contracts with the moisture content of the soil, swelling and contracting - similar to breathing underground, helping to keep the fissures open longer. The machine uses 2m centre spacings on a staggered grid pattern, each shot interconnecting with the previous ones, ensuring the whole area is aerated and decompacted. The probe holes are backfilled with an aggregate, with the top 1"-2" backfilled with normal top dressing material. Once this deep aeration treatment has taken place, it would not be required for at least another 10-12 years, so it is extremely cost-effective. Deep aeration treatment of a green takes around 5 to 6 hours. The engine/compressor unit is kept off the green with an umbilical air hose to supply the compressed air, thus reducing weight on the green as well as having to start and stop the machine every two metres.

It is preferable that the greenkeeper slits or hollow tines before the Terrain Aeration treatment, to relieve the surface tension so the air can gently blow through those top holes. The treatment can take place before top dressing and re-seed. but if ground conditions at that time deem the green too wet, then the end of season maintenance can continue and later, the Scamper Terralift can come in and aerate the green. There is enough time to fit this in before March of the following year. Terrain Aeration has at times even treated a bowling green mid-season - one had a black squidge where the bowler's back foot was placed. If the treatment hadn't taken place, that green would have played itself out until the end of the season. It would not have been repaired/replaced. That green survived and is going strong many years later. One club commented that after Terrain aerated their green on one of their matches, rain stopped play. They found that they could only have one pint from the bar before the green had drained away of water and play could continue.

A final point. Clubs considering laying in drains will have disruption to their green, but still have compaction panning in between the drain runs. With a track record of treating greens for over thirty years, it's certainly worth Terrain Aeration taking a look before committing to the expense of laying drains.

Terrain Aeration works nationwide, providing deep aeration relief for waterlogging and flooding for bowling greens, sports grounds, amenity areas, golf courses, public spaces and house builders.

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Major CS Pro Mower Expands Sports Turf Services for Lincolnshire Business



James Pask, founder of Greenstripe Groundcare, initially focused on residential lawn care across Lincolnshire. Five years ago, Barrowby Football Club approached him for pitch maintenance, as their existing service used cylinder mowers, which couldn't cut in damp weather. Lacking the right equipment, James declined but saw potential in sports and amenity work.

A year later, the club returned, prompting James to invest in a reliable mower—if they guaranteed the contract. After testing various models, he chose the Major CS Pro 3m mower from his dealer Fenton's of Bourne and paired it with an ISEKI 6507 tractor.

The Major CS Pro mower is a gear-driven rotary mower

with four cut and mulch blades per rotor, which overlap to ensure all materials are finely cut and dispersed across the width of the machine. The height of cut can be adjusted to between 15mm and 100mm. The machine's ability to mulch clippings and leave a striped finish, combined with its durability, made it the perfect fit for Greenstripe Groundcare.

Starting in September 2022, James transformed Barrowby's 10-acre site. The CS Pro's adjustable rollers tackled uneven terrain without scalping, and its Strenx™ 700MC structural steel construction ensured durability despite wet weather. The mower's level of work output to cost of operation and ease of transport between jobs further boosted productivity.

The results delighted the club, which appointed James as Pitch Improvement Officer. His work has not only enhanced the quality of Barrowby's football pitches and cricket squares but also attracted new customers. With reduced maintenance costs and increased efficiency, James' business turnover has doubled, solidifying the CS Pro as a game-changing investment.

"If you need a reliable mower for undulating ground, from racecourses to public parks, the Major CS Pro is unmatched," says James.

To book a demo of a Major CS Pro, visit www.major-equipment.com or call Major Equipment Ltd on 01524 850501.

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Woodhall Spa Locks in Doak Design for Long Term

The Hotchkin course at The National Golf Centre at Woodhall Spa is renowned for being one of the best golf courses in the world, with much of the credit going to the re-design by legendary course designer Tom Doak between 2016 and 2020.

With the focus on returning the Hotchkin to its authentic heathland roots, Doak added 43 bunkers alongside a huge tree clearance programme and the re-building of three greens, but while the new layout quickly gained accolades some of the maintenance challenges, particularly around the bunkers, became difficult to address.

"From my first day 3 years ago, stone ingress into the bunkers and the erosion of hazard walls and the surrounds were clear priorities for the course," commented Peter Moore, Courses Director at Woodhall Spa. "The playability and the aesthetics of the bunkers were falling so we needed a solution that protected Doak's design for the long-term while preventing all the erosion factors that were causing us real issues."

To add an extra layer of complication, Woodhall Spa is a site of special scientific interest, so every plan had to be made with Natural England approval, including considerations for the sustainability of materials and the use of construction techniques that are sympathetic to the natural environment.

"I completed an assessment of the 143 bunkers on site and made a presentation to the board. A huge amount of work went into prioritising action, so once approved, we knew exactly what we needed from a partner," continued Moore. "Not only did we need someone who could meet all of the various technical and environmental criteria, we needed a problem solving partner with a range of solutions that could combine across various challenges. That's when we contacted EcoBunker."

Following an initial meeting, EcoBunker CEO Richard Allen, used his vast experience in bunker construction, golf course design and engineering to design a bespoke solution for the unique 'problem' at the Hotchkin.

"This has been such an incredible project to work on because it has really tested our technical expertise and product innovations," commented Richard. "I love a problem to solve and my background in civil engineering was certainly useful for this one. To work so closely with Peter and course design consultant Clyde Johnson, who worked with Tom Doak on the original design, has been such

a pleasure. To find a solution that utilised every EcoBunker product was hugely satisfying!"

Richard returned to Peter with schematic drawings that combined EcoBunker synthetic edging, EcoTec™ bunker liners and the first large scale use of LOKSAND™ technology in the U.K. This combination would provide all of the erosion control and sensitivity to the original design that was needed for this unique challenge.

"Keeping true to Doak's original design was our number one priority. We needed to lock in that design for years to come, eliminate erosion and stone ingress while not altering the original aesthetic," explained Richard. "We devised a very low synthetic edge that is invisible in the finished bunker. That edge meets with a full EcoTec™ bunker liner creating a completely sealed unit that is erosion free and keeps out all contamination from below. We then used LOKSAND™ on the bunker surrounds to ensure that in high traffic areas there could be no erosion to contaminate the bunkers."

Working closely with the team at Woodhall Spa, the plan was developed, and work began on three trial bunkers in January 26.

Peter continued, "The results have been remarkable. The look of the bunkers is exactly the same. They look so established and natural, and the issues have been completely eliminated. We've added a heavier sand that interacts beautifully with the EcoTec™ liner making them so consistent and playable while retaining every bit of challenge that Doak originally intended."

"This has been a tough summer for course maintenance. Everything has dried out making it more prone to erosion, but the bunkers are still so solid. Perhaps most impressive is the areas where LOKSAND™ has been used. These high traffic areas would crumble into the hazards quite easily and create worn patches. But not only has LOKSAND™ provided the stability that we need, the grass growth has been superb."

"From the first time the LOKSAND™ went in we 'stress tested' it by walking along it during the construction process. A few of us were jumping on the edges and the strength it gave was incredible. To see it in action and interacting so well with the other bunker technologies is a credit to everyone involved in the design, construction and maintenance of the new bunkers."

The project has been such a success that the board at Woodhall Spa has expedited the original plan, reducing the timescale for the completion of all greenside bunkers from five years to two years. Combined with unanimously positive feedback from golfers, the next phase of work is highly anticipated.

"We can't wait to get on to the next phase," concluded Peter. "Working with a problem solver like Richard has been key to making this project work. The expertise he brought, along with the innovative product solutions has been crucial to our success. As we continue the work, we're delighted with our partnership with EcoBunker and beyond happy that we have been able to lock in Tom Doak's design for the long term, ensuring that the Hotchkin continues to be regarded as one of the best golf courses in the world."

For more information on EcoBunker please visit www.ecobunker.co.uk





Baroness does the triple with top ranked 'Notts Triangle'

It's not just an NG postcode that Coxmoor, Hollinwell and Sherwood Forest Golf Club's share, nor the fact that they all rank in England's Top 100.... They also all swear by their respective mower fleets from Baroness! A range of hand mowers, fairways mowers and greens triples have clocked up almost 20 years of loyal service across the three clubs, with all citing it's the outstanding quality of cut that keeps them among the top golfing destinations in the county.

Aspiring to always improve on the high standard heathland course at Coxmoor Golf Club is Course Manager Ben Cumberland and his team of nine. After initially 'dipping a toe' and purchasing their first Baroness hand mower seven years ago, they now run four LM56 and four LM66 pedestrian mowers, three LM315's and two LM551's for fairways making Baroness the dominant brand of mowing equipment at the club. "Some clubs will opt for equipment purely based on a badge. For us, we prioritise quality of cut above everything else and with Baroness, it's just exceptional!" Ben explains. "The fleet is ensuring our turf is presenting well and is the healthiest it can be but more than that the build quality of the mowers themselves and the blades require so little maintenance, that any downtime has been significantly reduced."

Baroness has been present at Hollinwell Golf Club since 2018 - the same year Shaun Bullin joined the team before taking over as Course Manager earlier in 2025.





One of the original LM2700 fairway mowers remains in the shed, joined by an LM56 for tees, LM331 for surrounds and approaches, two LM315's and, most recently, two LM551 fairway mowers. "Over the years, the cut quality from model to model has remained remarkably consistent. While they've never been uncomfortable, we've noticed our new machines have really stepped up on operator comfort which has scored massive brownie points with the team." Shaun continues, "We're partway through a big sward conversion programme so the finesse of the Baroness cylinders plays a big part in supporting our efforts to promote the finer grass species."



Completing the 'Nott's Triangle', a Baroness LM315 and LM551 fairway mower, four LM56 and two LM66 hand mowers are keeping maintenance on course at Sherwood Forest Golf Club. "It was during the COVID pandemic that we were first introduced to Baroness in our hunt for a new fairway mower" says Deputy Head Greenkeeper Keir Taylor. "Where lead times for other brands were ludicrous, we were able to get our hands on Baroness in good time - and what a decision that turned out to be! The build quality, the cut quality and all-round operator experience is fantastic. The maintenance, in particular the need to grind the blades, is straight forward and is needed much less often than we're used to with other brands" he adds.

Ben, Shaun and Keir also note the fantastic advice and support from James Robson and the wider team at Henton & Chattell. "The back-up with every machine is excellent. If we have a question you can guarantee it'll be answered quickly and easily either over the phone or in person" Keir says. "The team are always friendly and, alongside Andy Darley from Baroness, they've together been a great help and support in my step up to the head role" Shaun concludes.

For more information on the full Baroness range of mowers and implements for fine turf, visit www.baronessuk.com







Hart Common puts Playability First with Air2G2 and VGR TopChanger

For Peter Roberts, founder and owner of Hart Common Golf Club, a 33-year relationship with Campey Turf Care Systems has supported a commitment to keeping golfers playing. Now 75, he uses the Air2G2 and VGR TopChanger as part of a maintenance programme shaped by decades of investment in the course.

Peter's connection with the Westhoughton site began in dairy farming. When milk quotas and changing markets pressured the business, he found a new use for the land and opened the golf course in 1996. Wet winters subsequently prompted extensive rebuilding, with sand and improved drainage establishing the foundations for today's conditions.

Early advice was crucial for Peter, and a conversation with a greenkeeper at Moreno Valley Ranch Golf Club during a visit to America helped shape his thinking.

"Nobody plays golf when it's wet, but your course is judged on how quickly you can get it back into play after bad weather," Peter explained.

"That's the lesson I learned in America. It's how quickly you can get the course back in good order that's important."

The Air2G2 supports that approach by injecting compressed air beneath the surface to relieve compaction and improve air exchange in the rootzone, with minimal disturbance to the turf. Peter was among Campey's earliest customers for the machine and has seen firsthand the difference the Air2G2 can make over several years.

"We had the second Air2G2 Campey ever sold," Peter said. "What appealed to us was being able to do that work without disrupting play.

"Getting the course back into good order after wet weather has

always been a priority for us, and being able to maintain the greens without taking them out of play fits that approach."

The VGR TopChanger addresses another part of the maintenance programme, using high-pressure water to aerate the soil and introduce sand into the resulting channels, helping water infiltrate the soil.

"Our greens are approximately 500 square metres, and with the VGR we can get two and a half tonnes of sand into a green," Peter said.

"The point is that you can keep it in play. We tend to do three or four greens a day at our own pace, which gives us the flexibility to work around the weather, take breaks when needed, and spend more time on areas that require extra attention. Being able to set our own schedule makes the process more manageable and means we can keep making progress without feeling rushed."

Peter's twin daughters, Catherine and Claire, operate the machinery alongside a labourer, making the TopChanger part of the club's family-run approach to course maintenance.

These treatments support the wider investment in drainage and course conditions that Peter believes encourages repeat visits.

"We don't use mats, temporary tees or winter greens," he said.

"People come because we have good greens, it's fairly dry, and it's affordable. That's how we got return business."

The partnership began when greenkeeper John Bond introduced Peter to Campey during the company's early years. Practical support, including repairing an early second-hand mower, helped build confidence that has lasted through subsequent investments.

"John Bond took me to Campey because I couldn't afford new machinery, and Campey were in their infancy," Peter recalled.

> *"John gave me a lot of help, and Richard Campey gave me a lot of help. When we had a problem with that first mower, they put it right. Anybody who puts things right, you trade with."*



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Agrovista scales up robotic infrastructure to meet growing demand



Agrovista Amenity has significantly expanded its robotics division following a sustained increase in demand for autonomous turfcare solutions, reinforcing its commitment to providing market-leading support, installation and aftersales service.

Having spent more than a year successfully distributing line marking machines and mowers, the company has made a major investment in its robotics infrastructure to support continued growth and ensure customers receive best-in-class technical expertise.

As part of this expansion, Agrovista has come to an agreement to succeed XDC's robotic operation. The move sees experienced robotic specialist Liam Pindred join the Agrovista team, alongside autonomous solutions and drone technology specialist Brian Turner.

Together with Dave Mitchell, who joined the business in 2025, the trio forms a dedicated robotics division focused on demonstrations, installations and aftersales support across the UK.

The investment reflects the rapid growth of robotic technology within the amenity sector, with more customers embracing autonomous solutions to improve productivity, consistency and efficiency.

"We've seen exceptional growth in demand for robotic technology over the past year, and it was clear we needed to invest further in the infrastructure behind the technologies," said Dan Hughes, Head of Commercial (Amenity) at Agrovista UK."

By expanding our dedicated robotics team with some of the industry's most experienced specialists, we're ensuring customers receive the highest levels of support from initial demonstration through to installation and long-term aftersales care. This investment is about building the expertise and service infrastructure needed to support the continued evolution of robotics in the amenity sector."

Alongside strengthening its technical support team, Agrovista continues to benefit from ongoing developments across its robotic product portfolio.

The RM21 robotic mower has received a series of specification enhancements, while the RLM01 robotic line marker continues to evolve through battery improvements, software upgrades and enhanced logo-marking capabilities, delivering greater efficiency and performance for customers.

To complement its robotic line marking systems, Agrovista has also developed its own specialist line marking paints and nozzle range. Dave Mitchell, Line Marking BusinessDevelopment Manager comments that 'the MaxLine range has been formulated for optimal presentation and value at all levels, the Titanium paint has been launched as a premium RTU (ready to use) which we have made to optimise spray lines through robotic line marking technology."

The expansion positions Agrovista to support the growing adoption of robotics across sports turf, golf, local authority and wider amenity markets, ensuring customers have access not only to the latest autonomous technologies but also to the technical expertise required to maximise their investment.With dedicated specialists, enhanced infrastructure and continually evolving technology, Agrovista is strengthening its position as one of the UK's leading providers of robotic solutions for the amenity industry.

For more information about Agrovista UK, visit https://amenity.agrovista.co.uk/

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With an ever-expanding product range, and with sizes starting at just 4" rim size, Carlstar's specialist groundcare range of tyres boasts well known pattern names including Turf Saver, Turf Trac R/S, Turf CTR, AT101, Super Lug, Ultra Trac, Sawtooth Turf Pro and Fast Trax to name but a few.

Their Multi Trac C/S & Turf Master tyres have one of the largest O.E. fitment bases of any specialist turf tyre on the market and it's easy to see why. With its modern, deep tread and square shoulder design, the Carlstar Multi Trac C/S & Turf Master range of tyres are the perfect choice for machinery being used for both residential and commercial users requiring the highest performance and dependability from their equipment. Made from durable rubber compound, the Multi Trac C/S & Turf Master range offers exceptional wear and puncture resistance whilst the deep tread and optimized profile give enhanced stability and traction, making them the ideal O.E. & Aftermarket replacement tyre.

Golf buggies are well catered for by Carlstar, with specialist patterns including Links, Industrial Trax, Fairway Pro and the popular Tour Max. With its low profile, smooth riding pattern design, the Tour Max offers max durability and ride comfort on both smooth fairways and hard, paved paths.

For compact tractors, as well as the Multi Trac C/S & Turf Pro range of turf pattern tyres, Carlstar also offer the Versa Turf range tyres. Designed with a deep, but turf friendly, directional tread pattern, the Versa Turf range gives the traction of an R1 Ag tyre but with the protection of an R3 Turf tyre giving users the best of both worlds.

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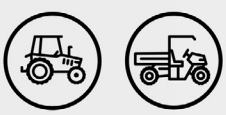






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