

CampeyNews

AIR2G2 IN SOUTH AFRICA

Mossel Bay GC chooses Air2G2

TOTTENHAM EMBRACES NEW UNIVERSAL APPROACH

Koro FTM with Universe® Rotor plays an important role in pitch maintenance

STAFFORD RANGERS IMPLEMENT PITCH IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

Staffordshire FA look to improve the game at grassroots



VOTEX CLEARS THE WAY FOR SUNDERLAND

A Votex collector assists in maintaining UEFA 5 star facility

KORO FTM REACHES FOR OLYMPIC STANDARDS IN RIO

Koro FTM and Universe® rotor have been used for sprigging the new Olympic golf course

Buchanan Castle Golf Club - A head greenkeepers viewpoint on the Sandcat

Ronnie Miles is the Head Greenkeeper at Buchanan Castle Golf Course, Glasgow, Scotland. He has been using the Imants SandCat over an extended period of three years and recently bought his own machine.

"Our main objective at the golf club is to keep the greens playable for 12 months of the year and seven years ago when I arrived at the club we undertook a major drainage programme on all the greens.

However we had to find an additional way of carrying the water from the surface down into the main drainage system and we looked at gravel banding, solids and everything but the method that impressed us most of all was the Sandcat.



"We brought it in to work on one green and it's turned our wettest green into our driest green to within six to eight weeks and it was playable for a majority of winter last year.

Normally it would have been left redundant from November through to March. The water transfer from the top surface to the existing drainage system has been remarkable."

More work was carried out last October where Ronnie worked on an apron section to test it. He was delighted with how well it went and has since purchased his own machine.

"I recommend waiting until late September early October because you've still got a bit of germination and growth to allow it to fully recover.

We know from experience we can do two greens a day with ideal conditions; one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Our aim is to get all the greens in play for the coming winter and I genuinely know that this will be achieved because of the effectiveness of the Sandcat."

What is the Imants SandCat?

The Imants SandCat moves lightly over the turf, slitting the surface and introducing sand to improve drainage and enhance the properties of the rootzone.



Koro Field Top Maker at Telford

AFC Telford United are part of what has become a familiar story in football with only their supporters trust standing between them and extinction in 2004 when the current club was formed from Telford United.

Whilst off the pitch problems had been solved over the past 12 years the more recent issue of Poa annua grass had to be tackled by head groundsman Mick Conway, winner of the Football Conference Groundsman of the year award in the 2009-10 season.

The issues faced at New Bucks Head, which also plays host to Wolverhampton Wanderers under 21 team, are a common maintenance problem for non-league clubs but with some help from the Championship side the surface has improved.

Wolves offered their assistance in the matter and ALS Contract Services were brought in

along with their Koro Field Top Maker (FTM) fitted with Terraplane® rotor, to clear the pitch of Poa annua and allow it to be completely reseeded, as Mick explains.

"As soon as Wolves, ALS Contract Services and Amenity Land Solutions became involved, things have gone from strength to strength.

"The surface is unquestionably stable, holding together and playable. To turn it around in such a short space of time from the Poa annua sward we had only a few weeks ago, really bodes well for having a pitch everyone at the club can be proud of during the coming season."

When purchasing the Koro FTM 2000 ALS Contracts manager, Dave Harvey, knew it could clear the surface with minimal damage in a timely and cost effective manner whilst the decision to purchase the additional Scarifying Rotor allowed them to clear thatch and other organic matter.

"It will enable us to remove unwanted surface material cleanly and efficiently," he said.

"And when used in conjunction with the rest of our renovation fleet we can ensure that turf surfaces can be returned to play quickly and cost effectively."

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Aeration is a major part of every ground maintenance programme across every type of turf based sport.

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Koro Recycling Dresser helps facilitate change at Montgomerie Maxx Royal Golf Course

The transition from ryegrass to Bermuda grass can be difficult! In the spring of 2015 Benjamin Lovett, course superintendent at the Montgomerie Maxx Royal Golf club, decided it was necessary to make the switch.

His reasoning was based upon the courses natural assets and in order to facilitate the change, the Koro Recycling Dresser was an obvious choice to Benjamin, who had a very specific plan for the machine.

"As a pure sand golf course we get the added benefits of topdressing and decompaction all in one operation saving time and money," Benjamin explains

"We wanted the machine to open up the canopy and create the perfect conditions for the Bermuda grass to come through.

"After using the machine that's exactly what has happened and it's given us a smooth and quick transition from one grass to the other."

The course was designed by Scottish golfer Colin Montgomerie and is located in Belek, Turkey. It sits on the Mediterranean coast and plays host to the 2015 Turkish Airlines Open at the end of October 2015 for the first time.

Benjamin is delighted with the condition of the course particularly for the showpiece European Tour event.



"One thing which impressed me was the flush of growth we got after the operation from the recycling of nutrients in the sand.

"I have been very happy with our purchase of the Koro Recycling Dresser and our fairways, approaches and tees are in the best shape they have ever been in this summer.

Air2G2 Provides Space for Growth at St George's Park

After a successful trial Alan Ferguson, Head of Grounds and Estates at St George's Park training complex has purchased an Air2G2 air injection machine to produce the essential space in the soil structure needed for healthy growth.

To date he has been extremely impressed with the results on his pitches with the machine helping him produce some of the healthiest root zones of his 37-year career.

"The Air2G2 was brought in for a trial in the winter of 2013/14 to try and boost oxygen levels in the root zones particularly on the five pitches with heating. Over a period of time compaction builds up around the heating pipes and it is difficult to aerate this region conventionally with a solid tine for fear of damaging the pipe work."

"The Air2G2 with its unique air injection allows this region to be safely tackled while at the same time boosting oxygen levels in the root zone."



"During the procurement of the Air2G2 I spoke with Glen Black who invented the machine," Alan explained.

"Glen has a saying air is everything to anything that lives. How true. I have a saying that root grows in space not soil and we are the guys who create that space."

"The results when these theories come together has been impressive. We have observed no black layer forming in any root

zones particularly the higher dominated sand root zones which is a common problem in sand profiles. We have also noticed a reduction in our nematode activity and an increase in microbial activity.

"Rooting is deeper and stronger with good white root penetrating well down increasing the plant strength and improving the playability of the pitch."



Campey successful partnership with NH Koneet continues in Finland

NH Koneet, our dealer in Finland, is continuing to deliver a range of machines to suit the local conditions. The City of Espoo has been supplied with a Dakota 412 Turf Tender and Kalajoki Golf course with an Imants ShockWave.

The Dakota Turf Tender is being used at Tapiola Sport Park, a large multi-sport facility in Espoo as well as other grass pitches in the city, whilst the ShockWave is in use at Kalajoki Golf course, located near the shoreline on the west coast of Finland in Kalajoki Hiekkasärkät.

Teemu Lahtinen, head groundsman for the City of Espoo, has spoken about how much he and his grounds team have enjoyed using the machine and the effect it has had on both their synthetic and natural pitches.

"We bought the Dakota 412 in 2013 and have been using it on all of our pitches ever since," he said.

"Mainly we use the Dakota 412 to top dress the football pitch here at Espoo, Tapiola Sport

Park, but also for others grass pitches at area of City of Espoo.

"Our grounds team have been really satisfied with the top dresser because of the even spread it provides and its easy adaptability when changing the spreading distance and calibration.

"We have used it to spread all kinds of material, even for applying the artificial granules onto the synthetic pitch and the final result was great!"

Similar reviews of the Imants ShockWave have come from Risto Lavander, green-keeper at Kalajoki Golf course who has been impressed with the performance of the machine.

"The machine has been fantastic for us here at the course," he said.

"We are using it on the fairways with great results and the surface can be played on almost immediately after use."



A Tale of Two Halves

North Shore Golf Course in Lincolnshire is a tale of two halves; one half is a links course with dry, sandy conditions, the other is parkland, clay based and prone to wet stodgy conditions.

This is a challenge for Brett Cornelius head green-keeper, but one he has tackled successfully. There are two greens in the clay area that require more maintenance time than the rest and one in particular, the 6th, is located at the lowest part of the course in a leafy area. This has been treated with the Imants ShockWave to relieve water retention.

"I Shockwaved then ran the Air2G2 across the back half of the green which slopes towards a dyke to encourage the water to drain into it," began Brett. "There was no surface disruption and minimum break in play while the work was carried out. This was back in February and so far it's holding up nicely with no drainage issues."

"The 8th green has a hard compacted plateau where surface water can be a problem after heavy rainfall. We treated with the Air2 and left to settle overnight. As luck would have it, it poured down and yet happily there was no evidence of this on the green the following day. We had excellent results from a brilliant machine!"

Brett has carefully monitored the greens since and notes a vast improvement in the quality of the sward. The low green is now absorbing

nutrients and has gone from being a sickly yellow with little anaerobic activity (which as we know can produce an unpleasant stagnant smell), to a lush, healthy surface. Both treated greens now maintain the same speed on the putting surfaces as the rest of the course, without additional maintenance.



Universal versatility at Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre

The Koro Field Top Maker (FTM) with Universe® rotor and Air2G2 play an important role at Tottenham Hotspur's state of the art training centre, both working across its plethora of pitches.

Based in Enfield, the 77-acre site is home to Tottenham's first-team and academy and is regarded as one of the best facilities in Europe with the aim of attracting some of the best talent to the Premier League club.

The site contains 15 grass surfaces including Desso, Fibresand and natural meaning that much like the pitches, versatility is key when it comes to maintenance equipment.

This is what makes the Koro FTM with Universe® rotor the ideal machine for the job, with the option to set the rotor to a precise working depth means a refined performance on each of the surfaces.



The FTM has been used on all 15 of the grass pitches with double-passes being carried out to leave a clean surface well within the designated time, allowing the renovation programme to run smoothly going into a new season.

This is why Paul Jones, head groundsman at the training ground, thinks the FTM with Universe® rotor has become such a key part of their renovation programme.

"The versatility of the machine matches the versatility of our pitches," Paul began.

"It's a key piece of equipment for us during the renovation period and the Universe® Rotor has a lot of applications that mean we can work on the natural, Fibresand and Desso pitches.

"Having the ability to adjust the machine to how we want it gives us the best possible results and consistent clean passes."

The Air2G2 has also found its place at Spurs through offering minimal disruption to the playing surface whilst providing vital air into the soil profiles.



Air2G2 impacts on South Africa

The Air2G2 Air Inject is already making an impact as far away as South Africa, where it is effectively tackling problem greens at some of the country's premier golf courses.

Mossel Bay Golf Club is located in the beautiful Eastern Cape. It is the only golf course in South Africa where you can see the sea from every "T" and home club of the well-known British Open Winner Louis Oosthuizen.

The club decided it was the right machine for them following a demonstration day held by our local South African machinery dealer Nanquip and its sales branch Nanturf.

Nanquip's turf expert Marcel Sonnekus successful demonstrated the Air2G2 at a nearby turf nursery, where he was able to aerate the ground deeper than had ever been done before. The turf professionals present were astonished when they could see movement beneath the green as the air travelled through the profile.

Marcel explains "After that first demonstration Campey's Export Sales Manager, Dave Harrison and I carried out at Fancourt Links, Mossel Bay Golf Club phoned to book the use of the Air2G2. They explained that for several years the greens staff has battled with four problem greens due to soil compaction layering and inefficient drainage." The Air2G2 would be specifically used on these four greens.

According to Marcel "The results after using the Air2G2 were really amazing, with the greens responding immediately showing a massive improvement in water drainage. The club has been using it to aerate all of the greens on a regular basis ever since."

BIGGA North West Knockout

The summer of 2015 started with 24 entrants for the first North West Knockout which we were sponsors of 23 rounds of golf later and the Final was played at Hillside Golf Club between Jim Grainger of Ringway Golf Club and Chris Harding of Prestwich Golf Club.

Despite the weather predictions the evening was warm and sunny with just enough wind to create a little more challenge. The course, prepared to Martin Twist's exacting standards, really was stunning. The result was that Chris Harding won, pictured from left to right are Chris Harding, Ray Walker



(Club Captain Hillside Golf Club), Jason Lord (Campey Turf Care Systems), Jim Grainger and Tim Johnson (North West Section Chairman). Thanks must be conveyed to Hillside Golf Club for hosting the final.

Chappelow Sports Turf comes out on Top at York Racecourse

York Racecourse is no stranger to drainage problems given that it's located on a flood plane which is fed by the river Ouse, with rain from the Yorkshire Dales providing a flood risk even when it isn't raining in the local area.

But Adrian Kay, head groundsman at the course for nine years, and Alan Chappelow, director at Chappelow Sports Turf, have finally found a way to co-exist with the age-old problem which has seen numerous approaches tried to remedy the issue.

Getting the surface right for horse racing is vitally important for the safety of the horses and jockeys as well as having a big impact on how the track performs with the 'going' of the course suiting different horses.



At Adrian's request the Koro TopDrain was brought in to provide a more efficient use and movement of moisture through the indigenous soil profile into the primary drainage, as he explains.

"We want to provide a high standard of racing surface and the consistency of the track is of paramount importance and using the TopDrain is helping us to provide that."

"Since starting with the TopDrain we have done seven hectares and you can definitely tell the difference in those areas and we're finally starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel."

Alan has also been impressed with the machine having used it for three seasons, and despite knowing what it can do he was also very impressed with how it's dealt with the problem.

"It's been very effective, fantastic really, the results have been unbelievable, so much so that there are now plans to do the whole course," he said.

"We are into our third season with it now and we've done a lot of work with it on multiple surfaces with good results every time."



Imants RotoSweep with Rhea scarifier helps refine renovations

The Imants Rotosweep offers efficient removal of surface debris from sports turf, including cores, grass clippings, leaves and general litter collection. But when fitted with a Rhea scarifier attachment it becomes the perfect tool for refining your renovations and a vital part of the renovation process.

Paul Burgess at Real Madrid uses the Rotosweep with fine blades on the Rhea Scarifier and the results are superb.

For best results he recommends a 'little and

often approach' which will allow you to control the amount of organic matter build up but still keep the pitches in top condition.

You can still produce a dense grass sward but at the same time manage it efficiently to allow the ball to flow freely over the surface.

Tractor towed and powered from the PTO, the Imants Rotosweep has centrally positioned axles that allow you to easily follow the contours of the playing surface, without interruption.

Vredo Proves Championship Calibre on Open courses

The Vredo Compact and Super Compact Overseeders have woven their own part in the story of the historic Open Championship as one or other is now used at eight of the host courses of the famous golf tournament.

There are machines in use at Royal Lytham & St Annes Golf Club, Royal Birkdale Golf Club, Royal Liverpool Golf Club, Royal Troon Golf Club, St Andrews Links, The Aisla course at Trump Turnberry, Muirfield Golf Club and Carnoustie Golf Links, taking the Vredo's participation in Open preparation to at least 2018.

The Vredo Super Compact's double disc system offers precise seed delivery with no disruption to the surface, including fine turf, making it the perfect tool for the Open courses.

Due to the unique action of both the Vredo Compact and Super overseeders the seed is placed in direct contact with the soil giving an exceptionally high germination rate of 95-98%.

The precise nature of the machine also cuts down on seed wastage still being quicker and easier to use whilst allowing play to continue straight away after applications.

Craig Gilholm, head greenkeeper at Royal Liverpool Golf Club, whose course hosted the Open Championship in 2006 and 2014 has used the Vredo Overseeder for some time now and has experienced first hand what an asset it can be.

"We purchased the Vredo back in the summer of 2010 and the machine has proved to be a real benefit ever since," he said.

"The nature of the machine's ability to seed so close together has enhanced the fescue content and when overseeding greens this job can be done in seven hours and within two weeks can be redone. This has been a great help in aiding recovery and limiting the disruption for the golfers."

"Because the machine is easy to use, it is convenient to get round the whole golf course in a relatively short time with minimal seed wastage, and guaranteed germination."

Campey machines making for Greener Grounds

Quick, efficient work with great results is exactly what contractor's need when working across varying sites and Shaun Foster, director at Greener Grounds, believes he has exactly that with the Air2G2 and Vredo Compact overseeder.

Operating from their base in Liverpool Shaun and his team work across golf courses, football pitches and bowling greens with the two machines now forming a crucial part of their service they offer.

The lack of surface disturbance is an essential attribute of both machines for Shaun, whose team are deployed on golf courses, including Royal St David's, where the clubs are keen to keep members happy by keeping the course open all year round.

"You can go on the course with the Air2G2 at any time unlike hollow tining which can cause a lot of disturbance with the members or visitors to the course," Shaun begins.

"So using the machine gives us the ability to start early and get ahead of the golfers and get the work done before the days play."

It has also been noted that by using the Vredo Compact overseeder, clubs can cut down on the amount of grass seed they use. This is because Shaun is using a machine with a 98 per cent germination rate.

"Once again you have minimum disturbance with the Vredo and along with a high germination rate, it's exactly what we want," said Shaun.

"A lot of clubs hand seed and lose a lot of it from the surface. So using the Vredo with its accurate seed placement and high germination rates means they end up saving money. With the cost of grass seed being so expensive it makes sense to use the Vredo."

"Both machines have become a big part of what we offer because a lot of clubs will use both, the Air2G2 followed by the Vredo Compact."



Grass roots Pitch Improvement Programme at Stafford Rangers Football Club

Campey Turf Care Systems have been working alongside Staffordshire County FA to implement the FA's Pitch Improvement Programme across the county with the aim of improving pitches at a grass roots level.

So far 45 sites with varying numbers of pitches have been visited by advisors Andy Jackson, head groundsman at Stoke City Football Club, Kevin Duffill from the IOG, with the programme being overseen by Gareth Thomas, adult football development officer at the Staffordshire FA.

A renovation was carried out in June at Stafford Rangers Football Club and was conducted using Campeys, contractors Fine Turf Surfaces and was used as an educational opportunity for local groundsmen who were invited to the event.

Stafford Rangers pitch was in a poor state at the end of last season so they invested in a visit from one of our FA pitch advisors to see how they could improve the surface," Gareth explained.

"Initially they had planned to buy an aeration machine from Campeys, Richard came down to look at the pitch and said the machine would make little difference because of the state of the pitch.

"With the club playing in the national league system they have a slightly bigger budget than most grass roots football clubs and decided to invest in a modern end of season renovation which has resulted in a fantastic playing surface." Gareth explained.

"We took the opportunity to invite clubs from all across the county to see a live renovation and Richard also brought along other smaller machines for the clubs to look at which could assist them in maintaining their pitches."

Gareth believes the partnership between the advisors and Campeys was key to the success of the project and hopes that they can continue to provide educational opportunities going forward with another demonstration for local groundsmen set to take place in November 2015 at Stoke City Football Club's Clayton Wood training complex.

"Many of the groundsmen at grass roots clubs aren't qualified and are mainly volunteers with limited knowledge and resources so the advice they get from Campeys and the FA pitch advisors is absolutely invaluable to them," he said.

"Sometimes the advisors will recommend buying machinery and that's where Campeys come in," Gareth said of the company's role in the project.



"Campeys have been a massive part of our progress over the last two years with our pitch improvement programme, their knowledge and experience and the aftercare that they give to clubs and their groundsmen has resulted in some really positive feedback from clubs across Staffordshire."

Andy has advised on many of the sites and believes there is a real need to help improve pitches at a grass roots level through visiting sites and advising the groundsman.

"It's massively important to improve pitches at a grass roots level because that's where the young footballers of the future will come from," he said.

"Our objective is to advise on and arrange demonstrations of new and proven techniques so pointing them in the right direction. Half of the time when you go to these sites they're using the wrong equipment and products and paying a lot of money for them as well."



Campeys machinery the latest high class recruit at Lubker Golf Resort

From the outset Danish Lubker Golf Resort only wanted the best, starting with course architect Robert Trent Jones II and continuing with four of our machines.

The Imants ShockWave 155, Air2G2, Koro Field TopMaker with scarifying rotor and Koro Recycling Dresser (RCD) are both used on the picturesque course by Spencer Lloyd-Pye, golf course superintendent at the resort in charge of maintaining the 40 greens; including a 9 hole academy course 2 putting greens a chipping green and a nursery green in addition to the 27 hole course.

The course is designed in a clover formation making up three loops consisting of Sand, Sky and Forest, providing a varying good golf experience for players of all levels set in the natural scenic beauty of the Djurslands.

With this number of greens to maintain

Spencer decided the Air2G2 would be the perfect machine to use for aeration as it creates no surface disruption. At the same time also knowing the Koro Recycling Dresser would be an ideal match for his course as it combines efficiency with recycling existing goodness in the soil.

"The Air2G2 is an essential piece of machinery for us here at Lubker Golf Resort as it's the only way we can do effective subsurface aeration as we don't allow tractors or heavy machinery onto the greens," he said.

"And as the weather in Denmark is very seasonal it means we don't have to disrupt the surface to aerate as much in the golf season, so it helps us to keep our customers happy."

Lubker is a sand capped golf course so the Koro Recycling Dresser is perfect for all

areas to just freshen the surfaces and allow water penetration.

As well as looking out for the members interests, Spencer is also delighted at the reduced amount of top dressing used on the course following the use of the Koro Recycling Dresser. The action of the RCD; redistributing soil from the rootzone across the surface while aerating vertically and horizontally, is an efficient way of re-using the valuable properties in the soil.

"We use it particularly on our tees, semi roughs and the path ends and being able to adjust the depth from two inches down to six inches is perfect to avoid any layering.

"It has also halved my top dressing requirements per annum so it's paying for itself whilst doing great work on our course."



Air2G2 the answer to invasive aeration at Castle Stuart Golf Links

A prerequisite of a links golf course is being near the ocean and when you are situated in the Scottish Highlands of Inverness overlooking the Moray Firth it brings certain weather based challenges.

Chris Haspell is course superintendent at what in its debut year Golf Magazine listed as the 56th best golf club in the world. He is well aware of the challenges faced by greenkeepers on such courses but now with the Air2G2 in his fleet of machines at least he knows that aerating is no longer a problem.

The Air2G2 uses pressurised air to target compaction deep at rootzone level. Probes penetrate the soil and force air sideways to create fissures in the sub structure improving aeration and drainage throughout the soil.

Previous methods of aeration would cause disruption to the surface, making play difficult and causing interruption for the guest players.

This is problematic at Castle Stuart which is closed during the winter months meaning that the course has to be playable at all times when it is open, especially with the Scottish Open heading to the course in 2016.

The Air2G2 has provided Chris with the ability to aerate during the playing season while minimising interference of play.

"I think the Air2G2 is the answer to effective low key decompaction and turf maintenance while at the same time giving the roots what they need. It has great versatility with uses on all surfaces," Chris began.

"Verti-draining and other forms of aeration had been very invasive over the years and in some applications it may still need to be used but this machine gives an excellent quality of finish and a green that's instantly playable.

"The lack of disturbance is really important, not just here but at every course because it

allows golf to be played unhindered by the maintenance work that's taken place."

Air2G2 at Castle Stuart GC can be seen on the front cover of the newsletter.



Richard Campey and Chris Haspell



Koro assists in preparation for Euro 2016

In June 2016 24 of Europe's top footballing nations will compete across France in the UEFA European Championship on pitches that have been prepared using a Koro Field Top Maker (FTM) with Universe® rotor.

The competition has expanded from its usual 16-team format for the first time, extending the tournament to accommodate the growing number of member associations and allowing 24 teams to compete.

Like the players that will play in the tournament the pitches will have also had a long domestic season before being prepared for the finals and the addition of an extra eight teams will increase the number of fixtures.

This means each pitch used will endure a greater number of games and puts extra emphasis on the surfaces being in top condition for the likes of current world champions Germany, Spain and England.

The Koro FTM with the Universe® rotor has been used at St Étienne and Marseille with other pitch works still on going at the other venues throughout the 2015/16 domestic League 1 season.

The machines ability to work on a variety of surfaces including soil based and AirFibr pitches, removing thatch, poa annua or the whole surface up to 50mm, has made it the ideal candidate in France.

It is these qualities which give the machine an edge in such situations for companies like our dealer in France Hydraparts who has worked closely with contractors Parcs et Sports providing a Koro FTM for use at the 42,000 capacity Stade Geoffroy Guichard.

The home of St Étienne has played host to major tournaments before, taking games from the 1984 European Champions, 1998 Fifa World Cup and the 2007 Rugby World Cup.



A Koro FTM with Universe® was also deployed in Marseille's Stade Vélodrome, which received a €267m make over starting in 2014 whilst the team were still playing in the stadium.

Four group matches will be played at the venue including a Les Bleus group game before hosting a quarter-final and semi-final

Votex clearing the way for Sunderland AFC to see the light

Thatch and debris can be common problems on football pitches but Glen Campbell, academy head groundsman at The Academy of Light, has found a way to clean up his act.

Using a Votex VT420 compact vacuum sweeper supplied through Greenlay our dealer for the North East, Glen maintains clean surfaces at the UEFA five star training facility for all of the Black Cat's academy players and first team.

Although the centre opened in 2003 the Votex has only been on the site for 18 months and has now become an important part of the maintenance programme, operating at specific times during the season across his pitches as Glenn explains.



"We use the Votex a lot at this time of year because there's a lot of debris coming off the surface, so we use it a lot from now until November time," he began.

"But we also use it during the renovations to pick up any debris that has been left after koro-ing, and again from March to the end of the season to pick up the thatch and debris that's flicked up by the players football boots."

The impressive suction power and low overall weight of the Votex has been a real improvement for Glenn giving a much cleaner operation and lower surface impact.

"It does a great job, we had a different machine before which was good but this is even better," he said.

"There's a lot more power to this one and it leaves a really good finish on the surface.

"The wheels are a lot wider and the machine is lighter as well so there are no tracks left or compaction of the surface which is very important.

"We have to make sure the pitch is soft for the players to prevent stress injuries so it works very well in that respect as well."



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All at the touch of the button available on the App store or Google play.



Campeys first choice for GreenFields

GreenFields UK Ltd, suppliers of natural and artificial grass has chosen to work in partnership with us to supply equipment for use in their stadium maintenance activity.

The Bolton based company has so far received seven machines, with the New Holland Boomer 35 tractor, New Holland Boomer 40 tractor, Raycam 1.2m Aeraseeder, Dakota 412 turf tender, Raycam V Brush and two Dennis G860 mowers for use on GreenFields revolutionary hybrid XtraGrass fields.



We were chosen as the preferred supplier of equipment after extensive research by Stadium Contracts manager Colin Lyons.

Speaking about the recent deal for equipment for these two major projects Colin stated "We chose Campeys because of its strong market presence, comprehensive range of equipment and extensive after sales service. The relationship is already being cemented with Campey now supplying equipment for even more of the companies natural and synthetic turf installation and maintenance works."

Colin continues "Campey's has always been renowned for its world leading ability to supply cutting edge equipment to the turf industry. So the decision to commit to them was an easy one. Greenfields see this as the beginning of a very successful partnership."

Both the Ricoh Arena, home of Coventry City FC, and Oxford United's Kassam Stadium have benefited from the partnership so far as the machines have been used to prepare the surfaces for both clubs going into their respective Football League seasons.

Maintenance at these grounds is paramount due to both stadiums hosting rugby union teams – Wasps playing at the Ricoh arena whilst London Welsh play at the Kassam Stadium – with their fixtures taking place during an already hectic football season.

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Innovative Recycling Dresser brings savings to Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links

The Koro Recycling Dresser has helped to solve a problem that has existed for decades at Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links which is under the stewardship of Links Superintendent Fintan Brennan.

The course which overlooks the Irish Sea was opened in 1995 with Fintan playing a part in its construction in 1993, and moving into his current position in 1999.

Every effort is made by Fintan's greens team to maintain the course to the highest standards but until recently there was still a compaction issue on the 10th fairway. Several different ways of addressing the issue had been tried without a permanent solution. That is until Product Specialist for Ireland Brian O'Shaughnessy suggested an alternative aeration technique using the Koro Recycling Dresser (RCD).

"The compaction was deep-seated and required a radical change to the soil structure to create any real and lasting improvements to drainage and aeration," Fintan explains.

"What is exciting about the Koro RCD is the unique way it aerates both horizontally and vertically lifting the soil from the rootzone and redistributing it on the surface. All the goodness, nutrients, underlying fertiliser traces and elements lying dormant in the soil can be revitalised and reused."

Following the treatment with the Koro RCD, Fintan overseeded and fertilised the fairway and within 12 days started to notice a real difference.

"Since using it we have seen a definite improvement in drainage, the enhanced water movement within the fairway is exactly what we were looking for and the new turf growth is showing as healthy, vibrant and dense."

The Recycling Dresser was a new approach and has given the treated areas a new lease of life. In addition Fintan is certain the machine will help make significant savings on top dressing, which is good news for his future budget planning.



Raycam Uni-Rake

Whether natural or synthetic turf there is always a need to maintain it to ensure it delivers the right performance for whatever sport is played on it.

The Raycam Uni-Rake is a bonus for any groundsman who has a mixture of natural and artificial surfaces to deal with. Designed by the professionals who would use it, the Raycam Uni-Rake is the perfect tool for grooming, de-thatching and verti-cutting. Even on hybrid pitches it offers an intensive grooming action that can be calibrated to suit the requirement from slight to severe action.





Imants Mini Rotoknife continues to fight against chafer grubs

For Calvin Bent, head groundsman at St Mary's School Shaftesbury, chafer grubs – or to be more precise badgers digging for the grubs - have provided a constant problem over the last few years but he hopes the introduction of the Imants Mini Rotoknife will change that.

This Top 100 girls' school is situated on the Dorset/Wiltshire border and is set in 55 stunning acres of countryside. It caters for girls aged 11-18, offering athletics and rounders which, in the summer, is the main focus of the ground staff.

It is the summer season that is busiest for Calvin and his team who have to prepare for javelin, shot put and discus events as well as a 400m and 100m running track, meaning a flat surface is vital.

Calvin first saw the machine at a Campeys demonstration day at Beversbrook Sports Facility, and knew straight away it could offer him assistance with the chafer grubs and improve the aeration of the surface at the same time.

"I needed to find a solution to the badger problem, so when I was invited to a demo day I had a look at the Imants Mini Rotoknife. When I initially saw it I thought it was good but when they started to explain how it did more than just deal with the grubs I thought it was even better," Calvin began.

"We were really infested with them two or three ago which encouraged badgers which did a lot of damage by ripping our ground to bits.

"So everyday we spent a lot of time putting the turf back into place."

The machine had only been in use at the school for only a short while before the improvements made from the aerating and the roller were already visible. Calvin knows once the machine is set to the required height then the chafer grubs will be removed.

"We know that as we get the height of the blades to where the chafer grubs are then we will kill them, and so have dramatically fewer chafer grubs for badgers to dig up and spoil our lovely grounds," he said.

"Having the roller and cutter blade on the same machine is brilliant for us. We were already rolling, but now we also get at the grubs at the same time. One machine to do both jobs saves me valuable time, and prevents the badgers making a nuisance of themselves."

Vredo helping to achieve long term goals at Gullane Golf Club

For Stewart Duff, Course Manager at Gullane Golf Club, the Vredo Super Compact has helped to introduce more Fescue into the greens over the past six years.

The course hosted the 2015 Aberdeen Asset Management Scottish Open, the first European Tour event to be played at the club, using 16 holes from Gullane's famous No.1 Course and two holes from the No.2 Course.

Stewart explains that the machine was purchased from our Scottish machinery dealer The Double A Trading Company Ltd, with the primary focus of increasing the fescue count on the greens but through doing this he has improved the greens plus other parts of the course for the showpiece event.

"The Vredo is for regular use but using it consistently over the last six years has obviously helped the greens to improve," he said.

"A lot of small things contribute to how the course played over the event and improving the turf sward is a significant part of it.



"The Scottish Open itself was fantastic, and we thoroughly enjoyed it."

Stewart believes the high germination rate that the Vredo delivers has contributed most to the improvements.

Unlike previous methods the seed is placed into a V-shaped slit at a pre-set depth of between 5mm and 25mm deep, directly in contact with the soil for maximum germination rate and then closed by a turf iron. This prevents the seed being removed by any wildlife or the vagaries of the Scottish weather.

"You get the highest strike rate possible with minimal surface disruption with the Vredo Super Compact seeder and the least amount of seed wastage," Stewart explained.

"We also use the Vredo on any worn parts of the fairways that have been affected by the dry patch; it's great for getting grass seed back into these areas and restoring a good coverage."

"We have a long term plan to introduce more Fescue into the greens on all of the 3 courses here and with the Vredo we are well on the way to achieving that."



Jeff Lenihan (2nd from the right) with the Campey Team and head groundsman from the sports complex in Finland

US student learns from European experience

Jeff Lenihan, a university student from Nebraska-Lincoln, joined our team for six weeks from the middle of May to the start of July, to study Natural Turf Management from a European perspective – a perfect time for Jeff to see how UK and European Groundsmen prepare their pitches for the coming season.

Jeff completed an internship during the summer of 2014 at Columbus Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio, where he was fortunate enough to be connected to Mike O'Keeffe, the Program Manager for the Ohio State University's Global Intern Program. Mike informed Jeff of an internship available in the UK with Campey Turfcare Systems, and he jumped at the chance.

After finishing the final exams of his sophomore year at university where he is studying Turfgrass management with a minor in Business Administration Jeff was ready to head to the UK.

To give Jeff the best chance to see how we do things 'this side of the pond' he

was taken to some of the leading facilities in Europe and gained experience from participating in the pitch renovations demonstrations tours we undertook in Sweden, Finland, Denmark, England, and Hungary.

After visiting ten different countries during the six weeks the trip is now finished and Jeff is back in America having had time to reflect on his visit and everything he has learnt during his time with us.

"My adventure with Campeys enabled me to visit some of the world's most famous sporting venues, including Manchester United, Arsenal, Wimbledon, Wembley Stadium, and St. Andrews," he said.



"On each stop, I got to pick the brain of the groundsman and discover more about how they are able to achieve success on each of their outstanding grounds."

Jeff's experience is something that will stay with him for the rest of his career in the turf care industry and he hopes to pass on some useful insight to his fellow turf professionals in the United States.

"I'd like to thank Richard Campey for giving me the opportunity to work and learn all summer. Not just learning about turf either! Also thank you to Mike at Ohio State who helped make the whole experience possible."

Dakota recruited to provide constant quality at Stoke City FC

The landscape of Stoke City Football Club is changing with the Premier League team looking to progress up the league and the ambitions of manager Mark Hughes are matched by those of head groundsman Andy Jackson.

The Potters recently purchased a Dakota 412 Turf Tender for use at The Britannia Stadium and their Clayton Wood training complex in order to provide quality pitches all year round for Stoke's growing list of European talent.

With a staff of eight Andy has been purchasing machines that allow his team to complete mini renovations throughout the season with the recently purchased Dakota joining a Vredo seeder, eight Dennis mowers

across both sites and two New Holland tractors.

"Our aim is to keep the pitches in the best condition throughout the season as we don't have the staffing levels to Koro pitches but we like to use specialist contractors for that part of the process because the site is so busy that it can take two months to complete the renovation," Andy explained.

"Because the nature of the site we're getting so busy that we now require more intense maintenance work throughout the season, so we as a club feel we need the machinery to progress the pitches in-house to give us the flexibility to work when its needed."

Andy is familiar with what a Dakota can offer



and has seen its work first hand when used by contractors at the football club and cites the "reliable and accurate" machine as a strong addition to his fleet.

"We've had a Dakota used on our site for a few years so we decided to purchase one to do mini renovations and apply light dustings of sand throughout the season to help the pitches with traction and drainage."

"We know that it's a reliable, accurate and easy to use and that's exactly what we need to help progress our pitches across both sites."



The Koro Field Top Maker promotes new growth at Rio Olympic Golf Course

Golf has been reintroduced to the Olympic Games for Rio 2016 when some of the games top names will represent their countries on the course after a 114 year absence from one of the biggest sporting events in the world.

In 2013 Marcelo Matte's company Green Grass Brazil started growing the grass for the new Olympic course at Barra da Tijuca in Rio. In 2014 they purchased a Koro Field Top Maker (FTM) with Universe® Rotor to maximise the harvesting of sprigs for transplanting.

Turf was grown using two grass species, Zeon Zoysia and SeaDwarf Seaside Paspalum which are both drought tolerant with the latter also saltwater tolerant, a big advantage due to the varying qualities of water used to irrigate.

All of the grass was grown at Marcelo's turf farm in Brazil and it was here that the Universe® Rotor really came into its own when it was used to harvest the Paspalum sprigs

that would be planted as live material on the greens of the 85-acre course.

"The Universe® Rotor is very precise in the way it works; it means we can set it to produce smaller and better sprigs. The consistency of the machine resulted in the number collected per acre being double our normal rate because it cuts the size of the sprig in half, giving us more to plant on the course," said Marcelo.

The vigorous root, stolon and rhizome production nature of Zeon is perfect for the efficient action of the Koro FTM's Universe® Rotor and its ability to be adjusted to the ideal working height to produce fantastic results on both cool and warm season grasses.



Gil Hanse (designer), Marcelo Matte (Green Grass Brazil), David Doguet (Bladerunner Farms), and Neil Cleverly (Superintendent)



In fact the successful harvesting of the sprigs even exceeded Marcelo's expectations.

"Most people did not believe we could make it on time, but the grow in was so good that the course was ready almost six months ahead of schedule. This is thanks to the good spreading habit of Zeon and excellent sprig harvesting rate of the Koro."

As well as the Paspalum sprigs for the greens Zeon has also been used on the tees, roughs and fairways and has low fertiliser requirements and grows a dense high-quality playing surface that make it difficult for weeds to grow. This is a crucial benefit of the species because herbicides are unable to be used until permission has been granted.

Marcelo has 20 members of staff to install the grass on the course as well as guidance from David Doguet, the American turf grass breeder from Bladerunner Farms who is responsible for developing Zeon to be used on golf courses and other areas.





Dakota versatility key for Southern Groundcare

As contractors Southern Groundcare are charged with maintaining different sports surfaces from football pitches to bowling greens and it is for that reason they need machines to match their own versatility.

In the Dakota 410 Turf Tender, Keith Petely, in charge of day-to-day management and company operations for Southern Groundcare, thinks they have got exactly that.

Keith wants to meet the specific needs of each of his customers based in the south of England, ranging from the Southern Electric Premier, Thames Valley, Hampshire Cricket Leagues and Sydenhams Wessex Football League, and has cited the extent of variables on the Dakota 410 as his reason for purchasing the machine.

"We have an Imants ShockWave 155 already and it's proved very useful. After having a demo of the Dakota 410 I saw another machine that could do a lot of good for us and how important it would be to the work we do," he said.

"I wanted our new top dresser to be able to spread more efficiently than the old machine on the varying surfaces we work on."

The design of the Dakota means that the belt speed, speed of the spinning disks and the thickness of the dressing can all be altered from inside the cab, allowing for a far more concentrated performance.

Keith also pointed out the size of machine as an advantage allowing it to be used on smaller areas in tandem with the other adjustable functions to deliver a refined performance.

He said: "We currently work on everything from cricket squares to bowling greens so the fact you can adjust the machine in so many ways and make it adapt to what you need was the main reason we purchased the machine".

Raycam Speedresser spreading quality for MJ Abbott

For MJ Abbott, Wiltshire based specialist contractors to the sports industry, the Raycam Speedresser 24H is a valuable tool that has been used across varying sites since the purchase in July 2015.

The machine was brought in to replace their existing Raycam Speedresser that had been in use for some time, and the new Speedresser 24H has been put straight to work.

The four flotation tyres on a pivoting axle minimise the risk of turf damage and compaction whilst having the capability to handle all types of top dressing, making it the perfect machine for contractors to use on different pitches.

Work has included spreading Fibre Sand on the London based training pitch used by the New Zealand rugby team during the 2015 Rugby World Cup, which is being held across the nation.

As well as the more recognised use of the machine spreading on sports surfaces across Hampshire and Somerset it has also been used by a local farmer for growing sedum for roof matting on geotextile, a membrane that is used in association with soil with the ability to reinforce, separate, filter, protect or drain.

The Raycam Speedresser is being used in this programme to spread the growing medium on the mats. Once grown the mats are then laid on roofs like turf rolls.

So far Mike Regan, Contracts manager at MJ Abbott, has been very impressed with his latest purchase and explains that the machine has been in high demand over the summer months.

"The key point with any operation on an existing surface is not to damage it and the Raycam Speedresser has four low profile, low pressure tyres to spread weight and minimise compaction or tracking on the surface."



"We use it on a 50hp tractor with low ground pressure tyres with dressing time of a normal size pitch averaging at three to four hours.

"It offers excellent performance, very accurate spread pattern and operates quickly and efficiently, which makes it an ideal contracting machine."



Frilford Heath Golf Club home to the UK's first VGR Top Changer

Frilford Heath Golf Club, Oxfordshire, has become the first in the UK to purchase a VGR Top Changer and course manager, Sid Arrowsmith, has big plans for the machine.

The acquisition of the VGR Top Changer came through a need to introduce more sand into the upper profile of the golf greens across the three 18 hole courses at Frilford and in turn make a connection through the profile for better drainage and root development.

The Top Changer is a perfect choice because it provides the ultimate in aeration improvement – laying the foundations for achieving excellent turf.

It combines the actions of aeration and sanding in one efficient process. Weighing in at only 903kgs with a working width of 5.2ft, the closely spaced row of holes are immediately filled with sand and both liquid and solid amendments.

This allows a path for air and water to penetrate the top layer of soil and be absorbed

directly into the root zone to encourage rapid growth and healthy development of the grass. The sand retains the stability of the holes and over a period of time the VGR Top Changer will completely change the top surface without any disruption to play.

Already aware of the machine through Campeys, Sid – one of only 61 BIGGA Master Greenkeepers – was given a demonstration and then proceeded to buy the VGR Top Changer without hesitation.

He now plans to use it with the aim of improving drainage generally across the course but also targeting some of the older greens around the course that has hosted European Tour qualifying three years running, PGA EuroPro Tour, England Golf ‘Golf Week’ festival and is set to welcome the Regional Qualifying for the Open Championship.

“As the course is built on a heathland site here in Oxfordshire, drainage is usually pretty good,” Sid explained. “But there are one or two of the early greens which have been built

on slightly denser material and consequently suffer from aeration and compaction issues.”

“We are hoping that introducing sand into the upper profile will improve the soil structure of these poorer draining areas.”

“With this machine you have the dual action of incorporating the sand and water or just using it for liquid injection.

In which case we can use a wetting agent or apply trace elements into the root zone as and when we choose.”

Sid has no doubt that over a relatively short period of time all of the greens on the course will perform equally well following treatment with the VGR Top Changer.



Raycam Soil Screen brings environmental benefits to Royal St. George's

The Raycam Soil Screener has brought multiple benefits to Paul Arson, course manager at Royal St. George's Golf Club in Kent.

Paul decided to buy the machine in order to utilise a sand dune located on the course with a view to screening it for stocking the bunkers and other areas of the course which need sand.

After great success with sand he then decided to start screening the compost that was gathered from the site and applied the soil produced from it on the Open Championship course which last hosted the competition in 2011.

The Raycam Soil Screener is currently providing Paul and his team with 150 tons of sand and 120 tons of soil a year which is having two major benefits both on and off the course.

“Because we can use our own sand there’s a definite environmental benefit as we don’t have to use lorries to ship the sand or soil to us, it also saves us money on having to buy both materials,” Paul explains.

“The only sand we buy now is for dressing our greens so it’s great for us to save money and help the ecosystem along the way.”

The portable vibratory Raycam Soil Screener is the perfect machine for this job because of its mobility, allowing it to be taken to each of the sites with the ability to screen sand, soil, gravel and various other materials.

“For us the machine is great because we have a source of sand on site that we can

continuously extract from, screening the sand of impurities before using it in the bunkers and other areas of the course.

“It’s a similar process with our compost heap. We gather all the debris, leaves, grass cuttings and other natural matter from around the fairways, greens and rough and then use the Soil Screener to filter out the residue after it’s decomposed.

“Once we have that soil we can redistribute it around the course as and where we need to, so we really make the most of all our resource,” concludes Paul.





University of Tennessee Field Day gives a diamond education

On September 10 2015 Campey Imants along with our USA distributor, Aqua Aid were Diamond Sponsors for University of Tennessee Field Day held in the grounds of the prestigious Institute of Agriculture. The University of Tennessee along with its talented pool of professors is known for its cutting edge research into turf management for golf as well as an extensive research facility related to sports turf.

Despite a rainy day more than 600 people attended and were greeted with an exceptional educational programme that featured several topics related to natural grass playing fields and education, from weed control, strategies for managing disease, to the effects of climate change and carbon abatement laws on turf management.

During the afternoon a presentation on "A new strategy for Managing Bermuda grass: Fraize Mowing" featuring the Koro Field Top Maker with Universe® Rotor was given by Richard Campey and Sam Green, Director of Business Development for Aqua Aid, American founder of Growing Green Grass; Jerad Minnick also delivered a short history of Koro fraize mowing describing how he had researched the technique by traveling to Europe to experience first-hand the agronomic practice and working with the founder of koro-ing as a renovation technique; Ko Rodenberg.

Demonstrations of the Imants Koro FTM with Universe® Rotor, the Imants Shockwave and RotoKnife continued throughout the day.

Such was the importance and interest generated, the entire proceedings was filmed for a future digital video production for Aqua Aid and Campey Imants. The Koro fraize mowing demo was broadcast live to fellow turf managers around the world using the latest android app 'Periscope'. A group of over 150 were participating via this process for the first time stimulating much discussion.

Everyone agreed that the day had given them an exceptional insight and knowledge of new and innovative techniques that allows for natural grass to become healthier and withstand more mechanical wear along with athletic foot traffic.

Campey Imants continues to lead the way in producing superior equipment used around the world to increase the sustainability of natural grass playing surfaces. It is not an exaggeration to say that the Koro Field Top Maker with Universe® Rotor is the only piece of equipment on the market that provides a true Koro fraize mowing operation.... all others are just pretenders!



Manufacturing Giants visit reveals all

How better to keep the sales team fully informed and up-to-date with all the latest advances than to take them to the heart of manufacturing to see just how the products they sell are developed and produced.

Late September the entire sales and demonstration team travelled to the Netherlands to visit the two giants of research and innovation in sports turf maintenance equipment; Imants BV and Vredo, to see first-hand how these companies operate.



Vredo exports machines to 34 countries each year, supplying overseeding equipment to all the top sport clubs, professional contractors, golf clubs, farmers and local authorities. It invests a significant part of its turnover into R&D to remain at the forefront of product innovation and technique. They recently won a prestigious innovation award with the Vredo Sport Series with the new DDS System. This system makes it possible to sow two different seeds in different dosages and seeding depths in a single pass.



Imants BV is owned by Felix Peters, who started on the sales team 21 years ago and took over the company in 1995. In 2010 a major refurbishment began and was completed in 2014. The increased investment has resulted in a factory which has installed new systems and state-of-the-art technology to deliver maximum production efficiency.

Running alongside this is the engineering research and development department whose aim is to constantly improve existing machines and develop new equipment and techniques. The current range is testament to their success with an overall growth in gross turnover and a real increase in the Turfcare sector with equipment such as; Imants ShockWave, RotoKnife, RotoSweep and SandCat as well as the Koro by Imants Field Top Maker, Recycling Dresser and Top Drain making the biggest gains.

For the staff it was an impressive and thoroughly enjoyable visit. Over a three day period they were given open access to all the manufacturing processes for sports turf maintenance equipment and as a comparison were able to see machinery for the agricultural arm of both companies; selfpropelled Vredo slurry Tracs and slurry injectors and Imants Spaders.

New blade brings finesse to fine turf

A new range of blades for the Koro Field Top Maker (FTM) is about to add another dimension to turf maintenance.

The success of "koro-ing" has been enhanced over the years with the introduction of new specialised rotors. First came the Universe® rotor, allowing Universe® Fraise Mowing to be carried out, followed by the Terraplane®. Now in 2015 another major change has taken place. A new range of blades called Universe® Finesse to be used with the Universe rotor has been launched and will take fraise mowing to a new level.

Richard Campey explains the significance of the change. "We have some of the greatest pitch renovation techniques in the world in the UK. Many of our grounds professionals have already adopted these tried and proven methods. Now we are looking at the detail, the daily routine maintenance and essentially preventing small problem areas becoming major headaches."

He continues, "We have developed new blades called the Universe® Finesse which will essentially let you "Universe® Finesse mow" as part of your regular maintenance programme for turf health and hygiene."

Results of research and testing on different sports turf and grasses, show turf recovery times vary depending on many factors specific to the individual surface. This could be down to usage, maintenance programme, and type of grass or climatic conditions.

To address these variations the Universe® Finesse is available in several different thicknesses. 5mm and 3mm have been

identified as the most effective options for producing a more refined finish on all types of surface conditions.

These can be fitted to the Universe® rotor in a variety of configurations to allow the groundsman/greenkeeper to use the Koro FTM for different working practices from surface verti-cutting to deep linear aeration/scarification up to 25mm deep, whilst maintaining single pass surface hygiene

A professional turf manager will be able to treat specific areas of turf and remove organic matter under very controlled conditions using a combination of alternate rotor spirals, cutting heights and spacings from 15mm, 17mm, 35mm and 37mm.

In addition the working depth of the rotors can be set with infinite precision and all the blades can be used on natural turf, for both cool and warm season grasses, and hybrid surfaces.





Asia welcomes new ideas

Asia is a growing market for sports turf maintenance and interest in our products has increased tremendously over the last few years. Export Sales Manager David Harrison has travelled across Asia holding demonstrations, setting up dealerships and exploring many opportunities in the countries which make up this vast continent.

We first made a huge impression in Japan working with Japanese dealer Toyo Green with the Koro Field TopMaker (FTM) fulfilling its role in the decontamination process following the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant disaster in 2011. The Koro FTM has been part of a clear-up campaign across 43 separate projects covering an area of 511,138 square meters. The success to-date has been widely acknowledged, but there are some affected zones still to be treated before being given the all clear.

In addition to established Korean dealer Arcwin, who has found the Air2G2 of particular interest and there are now 4 Air2G2's in South Korea, Dave has also explored further marketing opportunities in Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar (formerly Burma) and Laos with the appointment of agents BPS Services. In Malaysia, RS Greenmaster has been exceptional in its procurement of products; including an Air2G2 for contract work, the first Air2G2 for use at UITM sports ground, a Koro FTM2000 and Koro FTM1500 for their contract fleet, as well as a Koro RCD 1900, Imants RotoKnife, ShockWave, RootPruner, SandCat, a Raycam Speedresser 24H, Aeraseeder and a set of Streigel Harrows!

Word of new methods and machinery spreads quickly and other enquiries have come from countries such as the Philippines where STA Elena Golf Club has this year taken delivery of an Imants ShockWave to tackle drainage and compaction issues on its fairways that traditional methods of decompaction haven't been able to address.

As more markets open, interest in the new Universe® and Terraplane® rotors for the Koro FTM has intensified. Thailand contractor; Links Golf Services intends to carry out extensive contract work on both golf course and sports fields with the Koro FTM, supplied by our dealer Shiro. Links Golf Services have become the 2nd contractor in Thailand, after Golf East Group, to invest in the benefits of using the Koro FTM Universe® rotor in warm season grass renovations.

This surge in desire for new and innovative techniques has extended to Singapore where the country has over the last thirty years developed an enormous range of quality sporting and golf facilities. Machines such as the Koro FTM 1500 and Raycam Speedresser 24H are helping to maintain the highest standards possible through contractors such as TEHC. They hold maintenance contracts for three major golf courses including the infamous Orchid Golf Club set up in 1991 by the late Mr. Ong Teng Cheong. He was the then Secretary-General of NTUC who mooted the idea of developing a golf and country club which would be affordable to workers, so that "Golf will no longer be a game for executives only" as he put it. This sentiment is in keeping with our philosophy of providing turf maintenance solutions for sport at every level from the 'grass roots' upwards.

The Koro FTM has also played a part in renovating both the Singapore Sports Hub - stripping out all the organic matter before installation of the new Eclipse pitch by HG Sports Turf, and for preparation of turf areas within the circuit of the Singapore Grand Prix Circuit.

As a result of Dave's extensive campaign another major distributor to the sports turf and golf industries in this part of the world - Centaur Asia Pacific which has offices in Hong Kong and Singapore and currently represents internationally recognised equipment, products, and tools for the Golf Course, Sports Field, Nursery, and Landscape

markets throughout Asia, was appointed to represent Campeys in this important and rapidly expanding market.

One of Centaur's established customers is The Hong Kong Jockey Club. Founded in 1884 the HK Jockey Club changed from an amateur to a professional organisation in 1971 with a second racecourse opening at Sha Tin in 1978. The track has seen non-stop action ever since. Centaur has supplied them with a Koro FTM 2000 and demonstrations are currently taking place in Hong Kong with the innovative Air2G2.



Dave is delighted that all the investment in time, travel and follow up has paid off. "It has taken a lot of hard work, patience and persistence, but the seeds of best practice have been sown. At last, we are starting to see the latest renovation practices working along-side traditional methods of turf management. With the interest and enthusiasm shown by all of our new dealers, the market for our products in Asia will continue to grow in the coming years."



Campey Demo tour and Turf Science Live in Ireland generates huge interest

In the summer of 2015 we held a demonstration tour in Ireland specifically for the golf course maintenance professionals. Product Specialist Brian O'Shaughnessy took the opportunity to highlight the latest products and techniques to some of Ireland's finest greenkeepers and course managers.

This culminated in the Turf Science Live event sponsored by Everris (part of the ICL Group), Syngenta, Campey Turf Care Systems and Toro at Naas Golf Club in September, 2015.

The one day event showcased some of the latest research and technological innovations in turf care agronomy to over 140 greenkeepers, groundsmen and agronomists. The visitors were treated to a very enjoyable day of demonstrations of some fantastic new machinery, clever amenities and cutting edge technology.

Seven demonstrations were set up across four holes of the immaculate Nass Golf Club, with attendees split into seven groups and moved between demonstrations in intervals.

Brian demonstrated some of the most effective and least disruptive methods for modern turf maintenance and renovation. The Air2G2 and the VGR Top Changer were just a couple of the highlights from the demo. The Air2G2 as used by Real Madrid in the Bernabeau is very impressive and easy to operate. It's designed to aerate deep into the soil by injecting air up to a depth of 10-12 inches, this decompacts the soil around the root zone. So powerful is it that you can actually see a ripple on the surface when the air is injected into it and yet there is no actual disturbance to the surface. The VGR Top Changer is designed to do several jobs

at once; this impressive machine can aerate while simultaneously delivering nutrients, wetting agents and other soil improvers directly to the root zone.

Also of interest not just at the Turf Science Live but throughout the demonstration tour was the Imants SandCat with its dual action of combining an aerator and sand slitter in a single pass. And new to many of the participants was the exciting recycling technique using the Koro Recycling Dresser that reduces the cost of top-dressing and promotes sustainable maintenance.

Finally the Koro Field Top Maker with a range of rotors which offer the most effective method of resurfacing, renovation and restoration of sports pitches and golf courses around today.

"The level of interest in new machinery is heartening," said Brian. Campeys is known for introducing innovative techniques and machinery. At our events we always get asked 'what's the next machine going to do?' Everyone is keen to see if it'll dig, inject air, inject water, scarify, collect, aerate. There's always something fresh for everyone."

Richard Campey is a strong advocate of demonstrations and practical events. "It's a sign of the true turf maintenance professional that there is still a thirst for knowledge and a desire to see equipment and techniques in action. This is best and most effective way of showing the equipment to its full potential."





STRI reports; 'Imants SandCat promotes healthy growth'

Surface drainage is essential for promoting strong, healthy growth in turf. The STRI are currently trialling and collating scientific evidence on using the Imants SandCat. This approach is looking at how to improve both the soil structure and drainage of a golf green using an aerator while simultaneously applying sand into slits. The Imants SandCat has been designed to perform these essential tasks in a single pass. It combines an aerator and sand slitter in one lightweight, compact, PTO driven, machine.

The objective of the STRI on going investigation is to determine the impact of using the SandCat on putting surfaces, measuring the effects of this operation on turf quality and health, surface compaction, water retention and ball roll characteristics. Additionally, a measurement of rate of turf recovery after the SandCat operation was assessed, in conjunction with the use of Vision Pro turf pigment.

Findings from the author of the interim report; STRI report researcher Dr Christian Spring concludes; "The overall trend showed turf treated with the SandCat to have significantly lower total penetration depth, in comparison to the untreated turf. The main reason identified for these differences was the drier soil conditions in the plots treated with the SandCat."

Figures to date clearly indicates that using the SandCat results in a consistently drier, firmer and truer playing surface. Water infiltration rates measured on turf treated with the SandCat were double those of the untreated turf after only two passes. These results show the real benefit of using the SandCat on soil-based surfaces that have agronomic issues."



Consequently the SandCat is perfect for greens and tees. It moves quickly over the turf, completing a 500²m green with up to 3tonne of kiln-dried sand in only 2.5hours.

The seven aeration blades, set at 15cm spacings, break through the thatch or hard pan to a depth of approximately 15cm. The sand is injected into the slits creating the necessary pathways for drainage and for healthy root growth and drier putting surface.



Back to our roots after 30 years!

30 years of Campey Turf Care Systems – what an amazing achievement!

2016 will be a year of celebration and what better way to mark the occasion than to travel around the UK and Ireland visiting the grassroots clubs which have been the backbone of our success.

We will be taking in at least a dozen different venues the length and breadth of the British Isles, going back to our roots and re-connecting with the heart of our industry.

The UK and Ireland Grassroots Pitch Renovation Tour will be an opportunity to see all of our products and techniques in action.

Campey Turf Care Systems

Marton Hall Lane, Marton,
Macclesfield, Cheshire
SK11 9HG United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)1260 224568
Email: info@campeyturfcare.com
Web: www.campeyturfcare.com

Social Media

- Campey
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- CampeyMachinery