

News Release



Rain Bird International Partners With Golf Management Institute of Canada as Title Sponsor of the Golf Course Design & Construction - Turf Management Course

Toronto: (March 21, 2006) - The Golf Management Institute of Canada (GMIC) is pleased to welcome Rain Bird International as Title Sponsor of its on-line Golf Course Design & Construction - Turf Management Course. Rain Bird is the latest addition to the GMIC's growing partnership community of organizations committed to the provision and advancement of excellence in golf management education.

Fred Sherman, Rain Bird's National Golf Manager for Canada believes that "a partnership with the GMIC will give Rain Bird the opportunity to positively impact course curriculum development and upgrading. As an added bonus, Rain Bird is pleased to offer an additional four hours of irrigation-specific instruction to students enrolled in the Golf Course Design & Construction - Turf Management Course which is currently underway. At Rain Bird, our goal is to establish long-term, responsible partnerships with our customers, vendors and communities and we are proud to join the GMIC partnership community."

GMIC President Grant Fraser believes "new industry partnerships like the one with Rain Bird International are the way of the future. The GMIC offers a flexible approach to each partnership so Rain Bird's offer to provide bonus irrigation material was welcomed as a way to add value for GMIC students and to give Rain Bird the opportunity to share its irrigation expertise. Rain Bird employees can also benefit by upgrading their golf management skills and keep current with changing industry practices through GMIC on-line courses offered at a discounted rate through the partnership."

Rain Bird International is one of the leading irrigation manufacturers in the world. A privately held company founded in 1933, it has over 4,000 product offerings and has been awarded more than 130 patents. The first Rain Bird patent was granted in 1935, and that original impact sprinkler was designated a historic landmark in 1990. Today, Rain Bird sprinklers, valves and controllers are used to control water flowing to landscaping at sprawling amusement parks, sports arenas, golf courses, botanical gardens, private homes and vineyards, both domestically and internationally. Rain Bird is committed to the Intelligent Use of Water™. Its legacy is to design and manufacture only those products of the highest value and quality.

Located at Glen Abbey Golf Club in Oakville, Ontario, the GMIC provides golf management education and training by offering specialized educational programs to the golf industry and its labour force throughout Canada and the world. The only school of its kind, the GMIC offers a Graduate Studies Diploma in Golf Operations Management comprised of 10 on-line courses taught by many of the industry's leading golf educators. As a non profit educational institution and registered Canadian charity, the GMIC relies on contributions from the business and golf community. The GMIC is the proud recipient of the Canadian Society for Training and Development's 2004 E-Training Award for Canada.