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#### **Professional Irrigation Training Camp**

Will be held from Monday 23rd June to Friday 27th June, 2008 (inclusive) at Holiday Inn Surfers Paradise, Queensland.

Call **1300 362 656** for an enrolment form or

**1800 424 044** for course enquiries.



To register to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit the following link:

[www.rainbird.com/worldwide/enews.htm](http://www.rainbird.com/worldwide/enews.htm)

#### **Questions, Comments and Feedback:**

Please contact us at [RBInewsletter@RainBird.com](mailto:RBInewsletter@RainBird.com) or visit [www.rainbird.com](http://www.rainbird.com).

## Save Money, Time and Water with Rotary Nozzles

By *Laura Cochran*  
*Rotary Nozzle Product Manager*  
[lcochran@rainbird.com](mailto:lcochran@rainbird.com)

Rotary Nozzles are an excellent spray nozzle choice to save money, time and water. With their new, low list price and their unique design, Rotary Nozzles are an ideal tool for water efficient irrigation, fast and easy installations and greater profitability.

### **Save Money**

Rotary Nozzles are the latest addition to a full spray nozzle product offering by Rain Bird. These highly water efficient spray nozzles are now available at a new low price starting in March 2008. In addition to the benefit of a new low price, contractors who use Rotary Nozzles can place heads further apart, install more heads on a zone and complete jobs faster, saving money on materials and labor. Rotary Nozzles also give contractors the ability to be more competitive in situations where the installed cost of an irrigation system is an important factor in determining who gets the job.

### **Save Time**

Rotary Nozzles have 60% lower flow than traditional spray nozzles, so more heads can be installed on a zone, resulting in fewer zones. And because Rotary Nozzles cover a radius range from 4,0 to 7,3 meters, heads can be spaced out further than the traditional 3,6 to 4,6 meter spacing for spray nozzles. Contractors can spend less time completing jobs, which will improve their job turnover significantly. For contractors specializing in irrigation system maintenance, using Rotary Nozzles can reduce the amount of time spent on repairs at sites with common problems like poor pressure and/or insufficient flow, stretched spacing, and excessive run-off.

### **Save Water**

The Rotary Nozzle's very low precipitation rate (15,2 mm/hr) makes it a great tool for saving water. Run-off is eliminated and water has an opportunity to percolate deep into the roots, making plants healthier and decreasing the frequency with which landscapes need to be watered. The large water droplet and low stream trajectory of the Rotary Nozzle also makes it highly resistant to wind drift, so water will be delivered to the right place.

For more information on Rain Bird Rotary Nozzles, visit [www.rainbird.com/rotarynozzles](http://www.rainbird.com/rotarynozzles).

Rain Bird's Rotary Nozzle in action.



At Rain Bird, we believe it is our responsibility to develop products and technologies that use water efficiently. Our commitment also extends to education, training and services for our industry and our communities.

The need to conserve water has never been greater. We want to do even more, and with your help, we can. Visit [www.rainbird.com](http://www.rainbird.com) for more information about *The Intelligent Use of Water™*.

## System Flushing: Tips for the Irrigation Professional

By Jim Fitzgibbon, Valve Product Manager

After studying years of customer service reports, returned goods data, field visits and sales team input, debris is consistently named as the number one reason for irrigation component failure in residential or commercial installations. Debris blocks valves and causes weeping conditions (no close), clogs filters and laterals and erodes gearhead mechanisms. It can also plug spray heads and drip emitters. In most instances, irrigation contractors can easily clear debris from any system by adding a few simple features when designing new installations and by using proper cleaning techniques.

Irrigation contractors are typically required to flush a system of debris following three events: new installation, in-season weep or no-close service call or after a line/main break. Each event necessitates different methods to clear the rocks, sediment, and other debris that will negatively affect the operation of the valves, heads and sprays in the entire system. Here are some quick tips to keep in mind when clearing debris from an irrigation system.

**TIP ▶**

### THE VALVE EXTERNAL BLEED IS YOUR BEST CONTROL

When a client calls about a no-close or weeping valve situation, chances are good that a rock or some other piece of debris (PVC chip or shaving, for example) has lodged under the valve diaphragm. Opening the valve electrically or via the solenoid ¼ turn operation will usually not clear this debris. Why not? When operated electrically, a valve diaphragm lifts to supply water flow only as much as the downstream emitters require.

Consider the following example. If a zone has four rotors that demand 9,5 liters each, then that lateral will require 0,6 l/s when the valve is opened with the solenoid. On a valve that is capable of 2,5 l/s fully opened (the Rain Bird DV), that 0,6 l/s demand will only require a diaphragm lift ¼ of full travel. The only way to get full 100% diaphragm lift (and flush the piece of debris) is to use the external bleed. Most debris will be flushed through the valve using the external bleed. This is true for any flushing situation – external bleed is the best way to get the highest diaphragm lift

**TIP ▶**

### HAVE PATIENCE – LET IT RUN

Many contractors run the system for one or two minutes at the most, believing that if the water is flowing to the last head it has carried all of the debris downstream and out of the system. Nothing could be further

from the truth. Rocks and debris weigh much more than the water flowing by and around them. The debris is usually bumping along the bottom of the pipe, traveling at a much slower rate than the water flowing above it. Add in the elbows, T's, swing pipe fittings and dips and bends typical of a normal irrigation system and it becomes apparent that you need to flush the system for a longer time to ensure that all debris is truly cleared before adding nozzles or heads.

A good rule of thumb is to flush the system for 3-5 minutes for each 30,5 m of lateral with a fully open pipe, removing the last two heads or keeping a QCV valve open. Sandy conditions will require less flushing time than those with rocks or larger debris present. However, keep in mind that a 1,9 cm rock from a line break could take days or weeks to finally get stuck or lodged somewhere in the system. That fact makes it even more important to keep debris from entering the system in the first place.

**TIP ▶**

### BEST NEW INSTALLATION PRACTICES

- Leave the saw in the truck. Only use cutters that slice clean, and do not leave chips or shavings inside the pipe.
- Tape over any open pipe, manifold or valve with duct tape if you are not IMMEDIATELY gluing or connecting. Never lay an open pipe in the dirt.
- Never nozzle up until each lateral is fully flushed.
- Remove the last two rotors or sprays from each lateral to allow for maximum water flow and complete flushing.
- Follow a sequence: first flush the main line before connecting to the manifold; flush each lateral before adding any heads, then flush with the last two heads off. Use the external valve bleed to make sure the valve is fully open!

**TIP ▶**

### ADD FEATURES FOR FUTURE FLUSHING EASE

- Add a ball valve with a T-fitting before each valve manifold to allow for complete flushing for main line breaks.
- Add a quick coupling (QCV) at the end of each lateral to allow for complete lateral flushing. Then, hook up a hose and use the flush water for the lawn or garden.

Debris intrusion is a constant source of component failures in irrigation systems. Fortunately, it's easy to avoid these failures by planning ahead and taking the proper precautions. Design inexpensive features into your next installation and follow a few simple flushing guidelines, and you'll be well on your way to a clear and free-running system.

## Rain Bird Allied Products – Taking On Irrigation Sourcing Challenges

From a single product to entire sites, Rain Bird Allied Products offers competitive sourcing, procurement, and delivery options to meet customer needs. They have the knowledge and expertise to quickly provide solutions when you're surrounded by problems, and their network of suppliers stands ready to provide whatever it takes to get the job done. Rain Bird Allied Products has helped customers for more than four decades in more than 130 countries around the world by offering the broadest range of irrigation products and services for farms, golf courses, sports arenas, commercial developments and homes. No matter what you need and where you need it, Rain Bird Allied Products is on your side.



### Rain Bird Allied Products is a One Stop Solution Provider

Rain Bird Allied Products is committed to helping you. Whether you seek a single product or a turn key project, they will deliver the solution. Think of them as a global partner for quality irrigation products.

Their strength is the diversity and locations of their suppliers. Short lead times - no problem, Difficult location - no problem, Shipping and Customs - no problem.

Rain Bird Allied Products can show you how they can save you time and money. Using Rain Bird Allied Products as a single source irrigation product provider can deliver to you peace of mind and confidence knowing that their 70+ year reputation for delivering quality and unparalleled support is behind you.

### Just a Few of the Products and Services Rain Bird Allied Products Can Provide

- Pumping Equipment
- Filtration
- Backflow Prevention
- Injection Equipment
- Flowmeters
- PVC pipe
- LDPE pipe
- HDPE pipe
- Pipeline fittings
- Specialty valves
- CI and DI valves and fittings
- Irrigation and power cables

### Complete Solutions Start to Finish



## The Right Choice for a Beautiful Landscape – Rain Bird’s Marketing Tools for the Contractor

by Shelly Glandon, Associate Marketing Program Manager

Rain Bird recently gave its marketing literature “The Right Choice for a Beautiful Landscape” a face lift. Contractors can use this literature to supplement their own marketing materials when selling to the homeowner customer. The concepts and selling points were created with the homeowner’s needs in mind.

### Easiest, Most Efficient Way to a Beautiful Green Landscape

Homeowners want an easy, convenient, reliable solution to help beautify their lawn and garden. When homeowners are thinking about buying an irrigation system, they want peace-of-mind their lawn and garden will be watered precisely and reliably, and they also want freedom from dragging the hose around. Above all they want to spend more time enjoying their lawn and garden then worrying about their irrigation system.



### Water Efficiency

Homeowners want an efficient system that helps them save money and water, while delivering the right amount of water to their lawn and garden. They also want solutions, like easy-to-program controllers and rain sensors that help them navigate watering restrictions.

### Irrigation Problems, Rain Bird Solutions

Rain Bird has developed a product solution guide in “The Right Choice – Expanded Folder.” This guide will help you explain the various options on Rain Bird products that help solve homeowner’s problems.

### Example Product/Solution

#### PROBLEM: Slopes or Hills

- Water can puddle or pool around sprinklers installed at the bottom of slopes or hills, causing soggy areas, which can kill grass or encourage fungus to grow.

#### RAIN BIRD SOLUTIONS:

- 1800° Sprays, 3500 Rotors and 5000 Rotors with a Seal-A-Matic™ (SAM) Check Valve alleviate the problem and eliminate puddling.
- Rotary Nozzles deliver water at a lower rate; this allows sufficient soak-in time to prevent run-off.

### Product Sales Sheets & Sales Tools

In addition to the product/solution guide found in the Expanded Folder, there are individual product sheets for Rain Bird products, as well as door hangers and direct mail postcards ready to be customized with your information.

To order, contact your Rain Bird Area Manager or Distributor.

## New Models for Root Watering Series – Ideal for High Flow & Reclaimed Water Applications

New Root Watering Series models for high-flow and reclaimed water applications have been added to the 2008 product line up. Two basic models that were discontinued were brought back to support drip irrigation applications.

### New RWS Models:

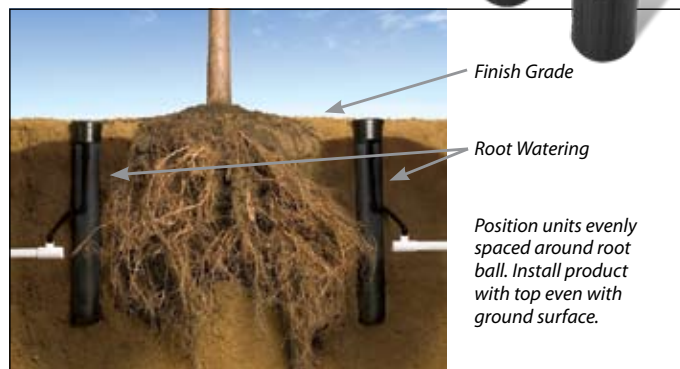
**RWS-B-C-1404:** Root Watering w/ 3,6 l/m bubbler and check valve on riser, 10,2 cm grate, versatile swing assembly w/ 15/21 M NPT inlet

**RWS-B-C-1404-P:** Root Watering, reclaimed water w/ 3,6 l/m bubbler and check valve on riser, 10,2 cm grate, versatile swing assembly w/ 15/21 M NPT inlet, purple grate

**RWS-B-C-1408:** Root Watering w/ 7,2 l/m bubbler and check valve on riser, 10,2 cm grate, versatile swing assembly w/ 15/21 M NPT inlet

**RWS-B-C-1408-P:** Root Watering, reclaimed water w/ 7,2 l/m bubbler and check valve on riser, 10,2 cm grate, versatile swing assembly w/ 15/21 M NPT inlet, purple grate

The new models support the growing need for high-flow bubblers in reclaimed water irrigation systems, as well as water-efficient drip irrigation systems. All RWS models now have a model numbering scheme that is easier to understand and specify. The new model numbers identify bubbler capacity within the model name.



## Technology that imitates nature.

Rain Bird® 5000 PRS gear driven Rotors with Rain Curtain™ nozzles are the natural choice for a healthy, green landscape.

**NEW!** First and only gear driven rotor in Australia to be awarded the Smart Approved WaterMark



**"We are always looking at ways to save water. Rain Bird 5000 PRS gear driven rotors with Rain Curtain nozzles deliver that promise and more. Our customers are very happy with the results and so are we."** - Mirek Carter, WA Waterwise Solutions.



As the name suggests, Rain Bird's water efficient Rain Curtain nozzle technology is the next best thing to a natural steady downpour. Proven reliable, and with a 5 year warranty, the unique 5000 PRS (Pressure Regulator Stem) Series rotor delivers larger water droplets with even water distribution across the entire radius range. It's all part of Rain Bird's Intelligent Use Of Water™ philosophy. The Rain Bird 5000 PRS is the first and only gear driven rotor in the industry to be awarded the Smart Approved WaterMark. Intelligent and Smart Approved. That's 5000 PRS from Rain Bird. Visit [www.rainbird.com.au/5000](http://www.rainbird.com.au/5000) and you'll see why Rain Bird 5000 PRS Series gear driven rotors are the natural choice.

