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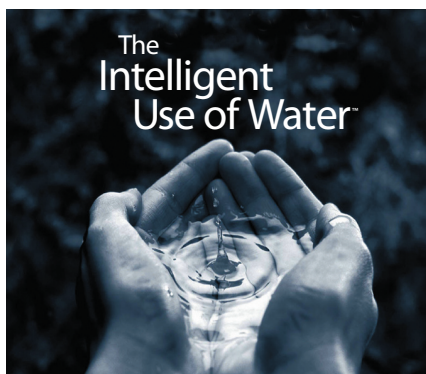
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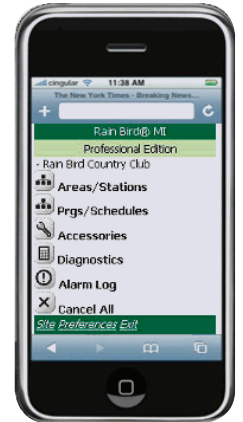
Please contact editor Christine Gery at cgery@rainbird.com

Meet the MI Series Mobile Controller

By Randall S. Mills, Centrals Product Manager

Rain Bird is pleased to announce a brand new product line called Rain Bird MI Series Mobile Controllers. MI, which stands for Mobile Internet, really gets to the heart of the matter. MI Series Mobile Controllers use the power of the internet, and the portability of a cellular phone to offer the productivity, convenience and freedom of the only dynamically adaptable irrigation system control... from virtually anywhere in the world.

Shown here running on the Apple iPhone*, you see that all options normally required by a golf course superintendent are available any time, any place. Superintendents can start programs and schedules, change program settings, check the status of pump stations and weather stations and more, from anywhere the Internet is available. All you need to get started is a Rain Bird central control system (Cirrus™, Nimbus™II, Stratus™II or StratusLT™ version 6.0 or higher), the MI Series Mobile Controller software and a cell phone with a web browser. The MI Series Mobile Controller is already being used by golf courses around the world. *Continued on page 3*



The Engineer's Corner

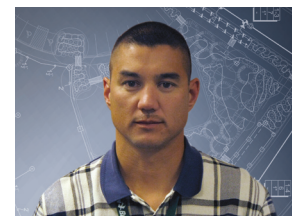
By Michael Allen, GSP Technical Engineer

GCSAA Golf Industry Show 2008

Once a year the largest gathering of golf course, golf club, and facility management professionals in the industry, converge upon the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America (GCSAA) Golf Industry Show. The Golf Industry Show is a dynamic, progressive trade show environment providing unparalleled networking opportunities, hands-on access to golf course and facility management solutions, and the ability to view and purchase new products and services.

For Rain Bird, the Golf Industry Show is an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to the development of technologically innovative irrigation products of unparalleled quality and performance, showcased by our broad and unique "Reservoir to Rotor" product line. For potential customers, having direct access to Rain Bird allows us to engage and interact directly with them, enabling us to illustrate why our products continue to drive and set the standards for all aspects of golf irrigation while remaining environmentally conscious - preserving the Earth's most precious resource. Rain Bird's dedication to conservation, coupled with its renowned reputation for quality and innovation, serves to inspire golf industry professionals with a renewed commitment to their profession.

This year's show in Orlando, Florida was an overwhelming success with attendance at an all time high. Nearly 26,000 visitors browsed more than 300,000 square feet of exhibit space, hosting nearly 1,000 exhibitors covering every imaginable aspect of golf course, club, and facilities management. This is truly a must attend event.



Product Profile: Central Control Software

By *Randall S. Mills, Centrals Product Manager*

With the industry-wide introduction of computerized irrigation in 1976 and the first PC-based central control system in 1984, Rain Bird single-handedly ushered in a new era of irrigation management. Led by Engineering Scientist, Rene Evelyn-Veere, Rain Bird's software development team has continued to push the boundaries of innovative software design and functionality.

Rain Bird Golf is now pleased to announce the availability of Version 6.0, the latest generation of its dynamically-adaptive central control software. Designed to help superintendents optimize water management in real time, Version 6.0 is available for all levels of Rain Bird® Central Controls including Cirrus™, Nimbus™ II, Stratus™ II and Stratus LT™. Version 6.0 offers several new features and enhancements that truly optimize the performance of central control systems more than any other tool on the market.

Perhaps the most exciting new feature of Version 6.0 is support for the new Rain Bird® MI Series Mobile Controller. This enhancement, included in all four Rain Bird central controls, means Version 6.0 users are MI- ready and users need only purchase a license to add this new technology to their system. MI Series Mobile Controllers enable golf course superintendents and their staff to monitor or control their irrigation systems from virtually anywhere using a cell phone equipped with Web access. For more information on these new controllers, visit www.rainbird.com/miseries.

In addition to Rain MI Series Mobile Controller support, Version 6 adds Automatic ET to the popular Rain Bird® Stratus™ LT. By adding an optional software module, Rain Bird's entry-level central control software, Stratus LT, is now capable of dynamically incorporating

information from Rain Bird's WS Pro-LT Weather Station into its irrigation programs, substantially enhancing irrigation efficiency.

Cirrus now supports up to 4,000 decoder stations. Advanced central control technology and simple wiring requirements make decoders a smart choice for many golf courses. With Version 6.0 software, Rain Bird's Cirrus Central Control can now support up to 4,000 decoder stations for ultimate flexibility, control and reliability in the field. With over 4,000 systems installed around the world, Rain Bird is the world's leader in decoder control for irrigation. To learn more about the benefits of decoders visit www.rainbird.com/golf/products/decoders.

With Version 6.0, Cirrus, Nimbus II, Stratus II, and Stratus LT central controls are now capable of 250 stations per area to meet the needs of longer fairways, larger driving ranges and the higher density sprinkler design of modern irrigation systems.

Existing users of Rain Bird's central controls will also appreciate these additional enhancements:

- Smart Pump™ actual flow and pressure are now logged within the Rain Bird Flow Graph and stored in yearly logs. Before Version 6.0 this information was accessible for seven days.
- Static sensors on decoder systems now have additional sensor conditions for more flexibility—"Cancel While" and "Interrupt (Pause) While."

Version 6.0 is a complimentary upgrade for subscribers to Rain Bird's Global Service Plan (GSP) and can be obtained by speaking with your distributor or contacting Rain Bird.

Tips & Tricks

If you check your scheduled programs from the previous night and notice that your course log and posted log show the system attempted to irrigate several times but shut down part way through, it is likely that you have a ½ amp fuse installed in your MIM that continually overheats during scheduled run times. Open the cover and face plate on your MIM. Locate the fuse in the top right corner. If the color of the glass around the fuse is cloudy or straw colored, it is



likely that the fuse itself is overheating and causing your system shutdown. After the fuse has cooled down, replace it with a slow blow ¾ amp fuse. If you notice that all lights are out on your MIM, check to see if there is power running from the wall to the MIM. Underneath the MIM, there is a small black fuse box in the back left corner. Slide this box down to see and locate two fuses, one in use and one spare. If the fuse in use is blown, replace with a spare.

Spotlight On: Palos Verdes Golf Club

By Christine Gery

Open for play since November 15, 1924, Palos Verdes is a semi-private course nestled between the Palo Verde Hills and the Pacific Ocean. With an average of 350 days of irrigation each year, Superintendent Pat Gradoville can't afford any downtime. When Pat needs assistance, he calls GSP. "I like the insurance of knowing that GSP is only a phone call away at anytime, night or day," states Pat, who has served as the superintendent at Palos Verdes since 1998. "Having the ability of someone to troubleshoot the computer 24/7 is extremely valuable."

Recently, Pat upgraded his Freedom Pad and recalls: "We had issues getting the software to sync with the computer. GSP solved the issue by working on the Palm Pilot via PC Anywhere. Having GSP work on the Freedom Pad directly saved me time as they are much more versed in working on computer issues. There was no worry of messing up any of the settings."

In addition to calling the GSP engineers for technical support, Pat has also utilized GSP's software service pack offer. "One afternoon while setting up the night's irrigation cycle, we had issues with Simple Irr. The technician worked on our problem and we had an upgraded version of the software by 10am the following day. There is something to be said for service like that."

In preparation for a members tournament in June, Pat and his maintenance staff have undertaken a number of special tasks including laser-leveling hole 15. To get more information on Palos Verdes Golf Club, visit www.pvgc.com.

Tips & Tricks

The single most important and most overlooked step in maintaining your central control system is to make a backup of your database every time you change your settings. This one step will save you endless time and headaches if your system goes down, and will keep you from having to reprogram every step.



To create a back up of your database, you will need a blank CD or flash drive. Open up My Computer -> right click on the hard drive icon -> choose Properties -> click on the Tools tab -> click the Backup Now button. In the Backup Wizard screen, click Next -> choose Backup files and Settings -> click Next -> choose the option to backup all files and settings on the computer -> click Next. In this screen you can choose to backup your files to a flash drive or recordable CD. Navigate to the chosen location, click Next once more and then click finish to start the backup process.

Meet the MI Series Mobile Controller *Continued from page 1*

In fact, during the 2008 Golf Industry Show, Ahmet Çağıl, one of the first customers to use this new controller, stopped by the Rain Bird booth for a visit. He told me he had been using his MI Series Mobile Controller on an HP PDA phone* to keep tabs on his irrigation system back home. The interesting thing is that "back home" is Antalya, Turkey and we were standing in Rain Bird's very crowded trade show booth in Orlando, Florida.

Pat Gentile from Patty Jewett Golf Course recently said, "It frees me up to do the things I want to do when I am away from the course, I don't need to rush to the course or my home computer if I want to monitor the central... It is a great use of technology that we already carry around." Pat uses MI Series Mobile Controller on his BlackBerry.*

When Cory Janzen of Westmount Golf & Country Club used MI Series Mobile Controller on his BlackBerry he remarked, "It's pretty amazing what is now available."

This revolutionary new product was created through the ingenuity and technical skill of Mengbo Li. Mengbo is one of Rain Bird's software engineers working for Rene Evelyn-Veere in California. His ability to solve the most complex technical problems is legendary within Rain Bird and his passion for using computers to keep golf courses green is certainly welcomed by everyone who chooses Rain Bird.

So, the next time you make a call, consider how a phone just like yours may be keeping a golf course greener somewhere (anywhere) in the world.

*These products are registered trademarks of their respective companies.

Join the Rain Bird Academy!



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Las Vegas, NV

December 8-12, 2008

Atlantic City, NJ

January 5-9, 2009

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