

AUSTRALIA'S MOST-READ GOLF MAGAZINE

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BUSINESS OF THE MONTH >

Centaur Asia Pacific – helping to build sustainable, beautiful, high-performing bunkers, greens and arenas

CENTAUR Asia Pacific is proud to announce they will be taken on as the official distributor of CapillaryFlow's innovative solutions for golf courses, landscape solutions, and other industries throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Centaur Asia Pacific is well known in the golf industry for delivering high quality, innovative solutions.

In 2003 Australian entrepreneur and director Danny Potter founded Centaur Asia Pacific in Asia. Growing the business, putting the right management team in place, and always focusing on the customer, lead to an expansion of offices in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Malaysia.

In 2020 when a great deal was changing, came the opportunity for Danny to return back home to Queensland after 30 years abroad, allowing him to spend more time with his two daughters. The move back to Australia also allowed Danny to do what he does best, set up an office selling select products, proven to be industry leaders, thus Centaur Asia Pacific Australia was born.

"It is not a regular occurrence to see a true game-changing invention introduced to our industry. In golf course maintenance I have always talked about products like, among other, the verti-drain aerator and the Greens Roller, and more recently automated robotic mowers as being cutting edge tools that have changed or will change the way we manage golf courses. But when I was first introduced to Capillary Bunkers in 2015 at the Golf Industry Show in San Antonio, I threw this onto my "Top 5"



list, and immediately realised that I had to add this to Centaur's range of world-class products. Adding EcoBunker and Loksand on top of this, to give us the "Holy Grail" in bunker building, just seemed like a natural progression that was meant to be" Danny Potter, Director, Centaur Asia Pacific.

CapillaryFlow is well-known for their revolutionary Capillary Bunkers, which address long-standing issues with traditional bunker liners. Capillary Bunkers have been installed at over 1000 locations in 44 different countries and have been praised for their ability to function

above expectation in any climate. The patented Capillary Material allows for a free draining bunker liner that stops contamination from subsurface, while also maintaining the correct moisture content via capillary action to prevent plugged balls and reduce washouts.

"Hervey Bay Golf Club began a greens rebuilding program in Aug 2021. Capillary Bunkers and Eco Bunker were chosen as the products to build the new bunkers. 6 Bunkers have now been built with this system, saving the Club many man hours of restoration work after every rain event. No more water-scoured

bunker faces, 100% drainage and ready for play after no more than putting a rake through the sand. HBGC highly recommends using this system for your bunker rebuilds." Kath Griffith, President, Hervey Bay Golf Club.

Correct moisture content in a bunker means that sand does not migrate, leading to consistent sand depths, a cushioned hitting surface protecting a golfer's precious clubs, and removing any concern of shallow bunkers. The bunker liner is also the only one in the industry that allows for the ability to clean the bunker sand using a Capillary Wash Box. This not only reduces a golf clubs sand expenditure over the increased lifespan of a bunker, but also reduces the carbon footprint of each bunker too.

"It has been almost 10 years since I made the long journey as a Swedish golf course superintendent to Australia to install the first Capillary," said Martin Sternberg, founder and CEO of CapillaryFlow.

"From day one, I always felt welcome and made many friends, and had the good fortune to work with excellent professionals. They continue to support and work with us as we now take the next step to further expand into all parts of Australia with Centaur Asia Pacific, a company that I have had the good fortune to work with across many countries in the Asia Pacific region."

"This is a very exciting time for CapillaryFlow as we now launch several new products and open new markets with our Capillary Hydroponics and more. I know Centaur has the experience and strength to fully realize our



incredible potentials with these new systems, such as for instance up to 85% water savings for turf, and we are all very happy to have their great team now work with ours as our official distributor of Australia.”

Capillary Bunkers are just one of the many innovative solutions offered. CapillaryFlow has also developed Capillary Hydroponics and Capillary Equestrian, which leverage the power of capillary action to improve the quality and performance of turfgrass and equestrian surfaces.

The Capillary Hydroponics system waters turfed surfaces from below the surface, which enables growth of turfgrass without the use of traditional overhead irrigation.

The grass is stronger and more durable, with significantly less maintenance and environmental impact due to the system being solar powered. In some instances, water usage has reduced by as much as 85-90% when compared to traditional overhead irrigation. Capillary Equestrian is another innovative solution, designed to maintain a consistent footing for horses by utilising capillary action to distribute water evenly throughout the surface, leading to less injuries and fatalities on equestrian surfaces.

Centaur Asia Pacific are proud to offer CapillaryFlow products alongside their high-quality products to the Australian market; Loksand, Hydrowick and EcoBunker (Queensland).

Loksand is an advanced fibre technology providing a surface that is stable, free draining, and with excellent strength enabling uses for a variety of applications. The main component of Loksand are the fibres which, when mixed with native or imported sand create an interlocked sand surface. Great for stabilising a natural structure and preventing migration of material by wind, rain, or tracking, as well as allowing a higher load bearing capacity before compression occurs. Great for a huge number of applications; bunker noses, temporary HGV access, cart paths, and stabilising natural looking light vegetive dune areas.

Loksand is an architect and shapers dream, being easy to shape as well as allowing for designs beyond what was possible before.

“What stood out for me was just how well Centaur’s team worked with all the other consultants for the common good of the project and for the benefit of Singapore Island Country Club. It was in here I that I was first introduced to Loksand. For me this was the missing link that gave us an edging that could be immediately secured with sod, protecting every bunker from the moment it was

completed, truly a game changer in high rainfall areas,” said Graham Marsh, when asked about Loksand.

Hydrowick is a big advancement in the drainage and irrigation sector. When compared to traditional herringbone drainage, Hydrowick shows up to 50% improved drainage capability.

The Hydrowick system comprises of a stainless- steel element coated in a fibreglass weave to wick water from the subsoil surface.

The patented system utilises a specialised sand bander which lays the element between 150-300mm (given required specification) whilst backfilling with kiln dried sand to ensure a consistent drainage curtain. Given the low invasive installation method, any given area can be back in play the same day, with at least 1000 linear meters able to be laid per day. Having been installed at Burleigh Golf Club late last year Hydrowick has demonstrated its ability to cope with the Australian conditions. More installs are scheduled to take place at Pacific

Golf Club in Queensland and in Victoria this year.

Centaur Asia Pacific is committed to delivering high-quality solutions that meet the needs of their customers. The company works closely with their clients to understand their specific requirements and provide tailored solutions that meet their needs.

With rapid growth came the need for expansion, Nathan Wheble joined the team in early 2022 to fulfil a key role in Operations Support, allowing the business to futureproof itself and put key infrastructure in place ready for expansion.

“Using my wealth of knowledge building golf courses, I am able to help anticipate some of the normal hiccups encountered when a course undergoes a large renovation project.”

“With proper planning, working closely with general managers and superintendents we are able to create a plan to smoothly get some of the most ground-breaking and cutting-edge

technology into courses, whilst limiting the impact on members.”

“Saving money for the club with lower maintenance costs, less down time after heavy rain and more play.” Said Nathan

The new expansion of the Centaur Asia Pacific and CapillaryFlow partnership offers a new, innovative approach to traditional problems. All CapillaryFlow products come with a 10-year performance guarantee, meaning your new product will not only perform great, but is guaranteed to for years to come. The Capillary technology has revolutionised the bunker liner industry and is now being applied to different industries with great success.

To learn more about these innovative solutions, as well as Centaur Asia Pacific’s exciting products, please contact Nathan at Centaur Asia Pacific at:

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