

# Centaur News

ASIA PACIFIC

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## Twenty-One Years of Commitment in Turf Management Solutions



**Bunkers Reshape  
Golf Course Landscapes  
Across Australia**

**State-of-the-art  
technology: Air2G2  
found its new  
home in Singapore**

Image:  
Singapore Island Country Club

**Defying Drainage  
Challenges with** 

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# Centaur's 21st Birthday Celebrations

Centaur Asia Pacific, a premier provider of sports turf maintenance and construction solutions are proudly commemorating its 21st birthday this year.

Established in 2003 in a modest office in Hong Kong, the company has evolved into a prominent entity with multiple offices and agents spanning across Asia and Australia.

Founded and owned by Danny Potter, Centaur has exhibited remarkable growth, expanding its reach from a single office to a network serving golf courses, sports fields, nurseries, parks, and landscapes throughout Asia and Australia.

With a diverse portfolio, boasting more than 40 esteemed brands, including CapillaryFlow, EcoBunker, Redexim, Rain Bird, Campey Turf Care Systems, Adama, Simplot, and SubAir, Centaur remains steadfast in delivering the finest products to its clients.

Danny said he was grateful for the unwavering support and trust received from principals and clients.

Reflecting on the company's journey, Danny said: "When I started Centaur, my sole mission was to help superintendents and managers solve turf maintenance problems.

"This mission has evolved into our team's shared commitment to providing customers with the best products and services for constructing and maintaining golf courses and sports fields.

"As Centaur Asia Pacific marks its 21st birthday, we offer thanks to all principals and customers for their trust – and look forward to many more exciting years ahead."

Jeffrey Eshuis, Managing Director of Centaur Hong Kong, is among those who have been part of the Centaur team since its inception.

He characterises the journey as 'one of continuous growth and fulfilment, highlighting the joy derived from collaborating with Danny and actively contributing to the support of numerous golf courses and sports fields.

"We extend our gratitude to the dedicated teams within Centaur for their significant contributions, recognising their pivotal role in establishing Centaur as a reputable name in the industry," said Jeffrey.



## Centaur Elevates Golf Course Excellence with Campey's Air2G2 Aerator Installations at Golf Clubs in Singapore.

Centaur Asia Pacific proudly announces the successful installation of the upgraded Air2G2 Aerator at two prestigious golf clubs in Singapore - the Singapore Island Country Club (SICC) and the Warren Country Club.

The Air2G2 Aerator, featuring state-of-the-art technology, found its new home at SICC, where Golf Course Superintendent Lokman and the dedicated maintenance team underwent expert training sessions conducted by Nick Brown and Lee Morgado from Campey Turf Care Systems. The self-propelled Air2G2 336, manufactured in the USA, utilizes three probes to inject pressurized air laterally, effectively addressing compacted soil layers caused by various factors.

In addition to the SICC installation, Nick Brown and Lee Morgado visited the Warren Country Club for comprehensive training sessions. Raja Patchamutho, Golf Course Superintendent at the Warren Country Club, generously shared his expertise, fostering a dynamic exchange of insights and knowledge.

Centaur Asia Pacific extends sincere appreciation to Tai Wae Meng, Director of Golf Course Maintenance at SICC, and Raja Patchamutho for their trust and support, emphasizing the commitment to delivering top-notch services and excellence in golf course maintenance across both esteemed clubs.



# Bringing Precision and Efficiency with ECHO Robotics Mower & Ball Picker



Centaur Asia Pacific has proudly demonstrated the capabilities of ECHO Robotics' mower and ball-picker across various terrains in the region, showcasing a successful partnership established in 2021. The collaboration aims to advance eco-friendly practices and promote carbon neutrality within the turf management industry.

ECHO Robotics is acclaimed for its autonomous, whisper-quiet operation and 100% emission-free performance. Recent demonstrations and installations of ECHO Robotics equipment in Thailand, Singapore, and Hong Kong have generated significant interest in adopting advanced robotics for sports and turf maintenance.

The ECHO Robotics Mowers, equipped with floating heads and stainless-steel blades. Meanwhile, the ECHO Ball Picker efficiently collects up to 300 golf balls in one run and autonomously returns to the ball collection pit for deposit.



Central to the precision and efficiency of ECHO Robotics Mowers and Ball-Pickers is Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) technology—an advanced satellite navigation technique ensuring accurate navigation.

Jeffrey Eshuis, Managing Director for Centaur Asia Pacific in Hong Kong, emphasized the game-changing impact of ECHO Robotics in the industry. He noted, "Sustainability and efficiency can coexist, making ECHO Robotics a significant player."

As Centaur continues to expand the application of this innovative technology and advocate for environmentally friendly practices, the future of turf maintenance appears to be gravitating toward eco-conscious solutions.

## SGL for the love of grass

The SGL BU10 growing light will assist the United Services Recreation Clubs' grounds maintenance team in high-wear areas and the shaded sections on their Bowling green and increase the rate of recovery by supplementing light to the surface. The SGL BU10 is very user-friendly and is the most compact growing light available, covering 10m2 of playing surface. The BU10 can be used to treat small areas of the playing surface by providing a high-light level to promote turf grass growth and recovery when natural sunlight is not sufficient. The SGL BU10 growing light can be used for Bowling greens, golf course greens/tees, football pitches and any natural turf grass surface.

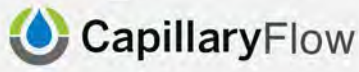


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# Capillary Bunkers continue to flow and impress across Australia



Over the last six months, we have witnessed a series of successful Capillary Bunker installations across Australia, showcasing the expertise of our contractors and the unwavering dedication of the club's maintenance teams. Notably, in October 2023, two additional Capillary Bunkers were completed at the esteemed Royal Queensland Golf Club, marking the culmination of two years of collaborative efforts with the club and architects. Installed by the skilled team at ProLinks, covering 250m2 of Capillary Material, these bunkers seamlessly blend aesthetic appeal with functional excellence. Capillary Material by CapillaryFlow, renowned for its success on more than 1,000 venues in 44 countries across the world, guarantee durability, coupled with a 15-year performance guarantee when paired with a wash box.



*Royal Queensland Golf Club*



*Indooroopilly Golf Club*

The success narrative extends to the Indooroopilly Golf Club, where a new Capillary Bunker on the 3rd hole of the Green Course marks a milestone in completing bunkers across the Red, Gold, and Green Courses. This 140m2 bunker, the final instalment on the Perret Webb-designed Green Course, promises consistent bunker shots.

CapillaryFlow's proprietary Capillary Material continued to shine at City Golf Club Toowoomba, with 320 square meters successfully installed in half a day. Superintendent John Halter led the project, showcasing outstanding collaboration and teamwork from the in-house maintenance crew under the guidance of Centaur team.



*City Golf Club Toowoomba*

Furthermore, Carbrook Golf Club enthusiastically embraces Capillary Bunkers on the 9th hole, emphasizing their choice for the assurance of a more consistent bunker shot. Designed by Richard Chamberlain Golf Design and expertly installed by McMahons Pty Ltd, this 125m2 bunker is poised to deliver exceptional performance for years to come. Additionally, the Parkwood International Golf Club joins the celebration by having completed a 120m2 Capillary Bunker in just 40 minutes, ensuring a consistent experience on their 19th hole.

The resounding success of CapillaryFlow's installations across Australia underscores our unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation in golf course design and maintenance.



*Carbrook Golf Club*



*Parkwood Golf Club*

# Capillary Bunkers and EcoBunkers Triumph Amidst Hong Kong's Powerful Typhoon



In 2023, Hong Kong faced one of the most formidable typhoons in half a decade, accompanied by a historic black rainstorm. The Hong Kong Observatory issued a T10 storm warning, equivalent to a Category 4 hurricane, followed by unprecedented hourly rainfall leading to the city's longest black rainstorm warning.

## Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club



The severe weather wreaked havoc on golf courses, causing uprooted trees and damage to ornamental features, demanding extensive repairs. However, golf courses fortified with Capillary Bunkers and/or EcoBunker technology stood resilient, showcasing their durability in the face of nature's fury.

Jeffrey Eshuis, Managing Director for Centaur Asia Pacific in Hong Kong, highlighted the effectiveness of this dual solution in saving time, resources, and reducing the need for extensive manpower in bunker restoration.

Several Hong Kong golf courses, including Discovery Bay Golf Club, Shek O Country Club, and The Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club, had previously invested in Capillary Bunkers and/or EcoBunkers. Despite the damage inflicted by the recent natural disasters, these bunkers demonstrated remarkable resilience, exhibiting no signs of washout, ponding, or edge damage.

The golf clubs shared their positive experiences on social media platforms, disseminating videos and photos that underscored the impeccable

performance of these advanced bunkers, reinforcing the value of innovative solutions in mitigating the impact of extreme weather events on golf course infrastructure.

## Elevating Golfing Experience in Vietnam with CapillaryFlow

In August 2023, Centaur Asia Pacific embarked on its inaugural CapillaryFlow bunker project in Vietnam, marking a significant milestone for the company.

Demonstrating a commitment to delivering top-tier bunker quality, Centaur underscores the crucial role of maintaining consistent sand moisture. The revolutionary Capillary material, celebrated for its swift drainage and effective sand moisture retention, is setting novel benchmarks for bunker liners. With a 15-year performance guarantee and an extended sand lifespan, Capillary Bunker liners boast a well-established global track record.

The trial installation in Vietnam has garnered widespread acclaim, spotlighting the liners' prowess in averting washouts during heavy rainfall. This success serves as a testament to the product's reliability, effectively addressing concerns such as washouts, flooding, and soil contamination while ensuring enduring bunker performance and playability.

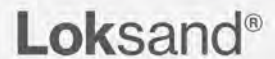
This pioneering project introduces enhanced bunkers, promising an elevated golfing experience in Vietnam and ushering in a new era of innovation in golf course management. Centaur anticipates further installations across golf courses, bringing the benefits of CapillaryFlow technology to a broader audience.



# The Els Club Malaysia achieves bunker transformation with Capillary Bunkers, EcoBunker, and Loksand

The Els Club in Malaysia has taken significant strides in enhancing its golf course by addressing high-maintenance and troublesome bunkers. The focal point of this transformation is Hole 12 on the Valley course, a historically challenging area for maintenance due to issues such as washouts after storms, sand contamination, and erosion of bunker edges. To overcome these challenges, the team at The Els Club opted for a comprehensive solution, combining Capillary Bunkers, EcoBunker, and Loksand.

The strategic installation of this triple combination not only resolved existing maintenance headaches but also ensures minimal upkeep throughout the year. The result is a set of bunkers that offer consistent quality for both members and guests to enjoy. The success of this project can be attributed to the dedication and exceptional work of Yong, the Superintendent, and his team on the Valley Course. Their efforts in implementing this innovative solution are already yielding tangible benefits, marking a positive transformation for The Els Club, Malaysia.



# Centaur Asia Pacific and Adama Forge Dynamic Partnership for Turf Excellence



Centaur Asia Pacific and Adama have joined forces to revolutionize lawn care, promising not just a great playing field but also a top-notch, healthy turf. Their shared dedication to tangible results marks a new era in turf management solutions.

According to Jeffrey Eshuis, Managing Director for Centaur Asia Pacific, Hong Kong, this collaboration is not just about solving problems; it's about boosting overall turf health. Their commitment and understanding of turf management make them leaders in providing effective solutions for lawns.

In the battle against turf diseases, Jeffrey highlights the trio of Evolution, Magellan 800WG, and Ipro 365. Evolution shields against diseases year-round, including the tricky Fairy Ring. Magellan 800WG takes the spotlight for Pythium disease control, while Ipro 365 tackles various threats like Brown Patch and Dollar Spot.

Jeffrey emphasizes the user-friendly and reliable approach of these products in keeping lawns healthy and disease-free. Adama/Quali-Pro's Marvel Ultra 120 ME and Marvel 175 EC play a significant role in enhancing turf health. Known as T-Nex globally, Marvel Ultra 120 ME regulates leaf and stem growth, ensuring vibrant colour and strong root development. Marvel 175 EC, with its unique adjuvant system, offers consistent performance and reliability. Both formulations, with their low-odour and water-soluble nature, are trusted choices for growth regulation, contributing to overall turf health. This strategic alliance marks a pivotal step in offering holistic solutions for the turf management industry.



# Finally an effective, efficient, and non-disruptive drainage solution for Turf Managers - Hydrowick

Centaur Asia Pacific has been making waves in the golf course maintenance sector with the installation of Hydrowick, a revolutionary drainage system, at various clubs. The recently shared video showcases the installation process at Morack Public Golf Course and Driving Range in Melbourne, Australia, generating excitement for the promising results seen on the 4th hole.

Hydrowick's unique design focuses on wicking surface moisture and enabling fast, free-flow drainage while efficiently managing water channelling and dispersion. One of its standout features is the minimally invasive installation process, ensuring minimal downtime for the golf course.

The system's effectiveness has already been demonstrated in a trial on the 4th hole, proving to be a significant advancement in drainage technology. Comprising a woven fiberglass element with a stainless-steel core, Hydrowick boasts gravity drainage and capillary suction, outperforming traditional sub-surface drainage with up to 50% enhanced drainage capability.



A striking example of Hydrowick's transformative power is evident in the before-and-after photos of its installation on the 1st hole at Pacific Golf Club - Carindale during rainy days. Previously plagued by ponding water and moisture control issues, the site underwent a complete turnaround with the installation of the Hydrowick system. The close spacing of drainage elements ensures rapid and efficient drainage rates within hours of rainfall, without the need for trenches during installation, minimizing surface disruption.

Hydrowick's inner, open core is the secret to its success, providing excellent flow capacity at close spacing and considerable lengths, coupled with capillary pull that surpasses conventional drainage systems. Golf courses equipped with Hydrowick bid farewell to soggy fairways and waterlogged greens, welcoming a brighter future for golfing with enhanced drainage efficiency.

As Centaur Asia Pacific continues to update on the progress of Hydrowick trials, the golfing community eagerly anticipates the widespread adoption of this innovative drainage solution for optimal playing conditions.

## Centaur Sponsors AGIF's BMI Course in Indonesia

Delegates in Bogor, Indonesia, enthusiastically welcomed the revival of world-class education for club management professionals after a nearly four-year hiatus. The five-day BMI General Manager/Chief Operating Officer course, organized by the Asian Golf Industry Federation (AGIF) at Bogor's Trump International Golf Club Lido, marked a triumphant return with 12 club executives participating from various countries. The program featured renowned speakers covering diverse topics, contributing to the professional development of club managers. Sponsored by Centaur Asia Pacific and Trump International Golf Club Lido, the resumption of the BMI programme received positive feedback, indicating its success in providing valuable insights and networking opportunities. The next BMI module's dates and venue will be announced soon.



Chris Gray, President of the AGIF, expressed satisfaction in bringing back the acclaimed BMI program, emphasizing gratitude to Trump International Golf Club Lido and Centaur Asia Pacific for their generous sponsorship of lunches and coffee breaks throughout the course.

This collaboration underscores the commitment to advancing education and excellence in club management within the golf industry.

# Spectrum FieldScout TDR 350: Revolutionizing Irrigation Management for Optimal Turf Health

In the bustling city of Hong Kong, a forward-thinking customer has recently embraced cutting-edge technology to elevate their turf management practices. The Spectrum FieldScout TDR 350 Soil Moisture Meter, accompanied by the SpecConnect FieldScout Pro Subscription, has become an integral part of their day-to-day operations. This sophisticated meter allows them to monitor Volumetric Water Content (VWC%) with precision.

The key to its effectiveness lies in its real-time data, enabling the customer to make informed irrigation decisions. By setting specific thresholds, if the VWC% reading falls below the designated value, it serves as a trigger for irrigation. This proactive approach not only ensures that the turf receives the optimal moisture it needs but also contributes to water conservation efforts.

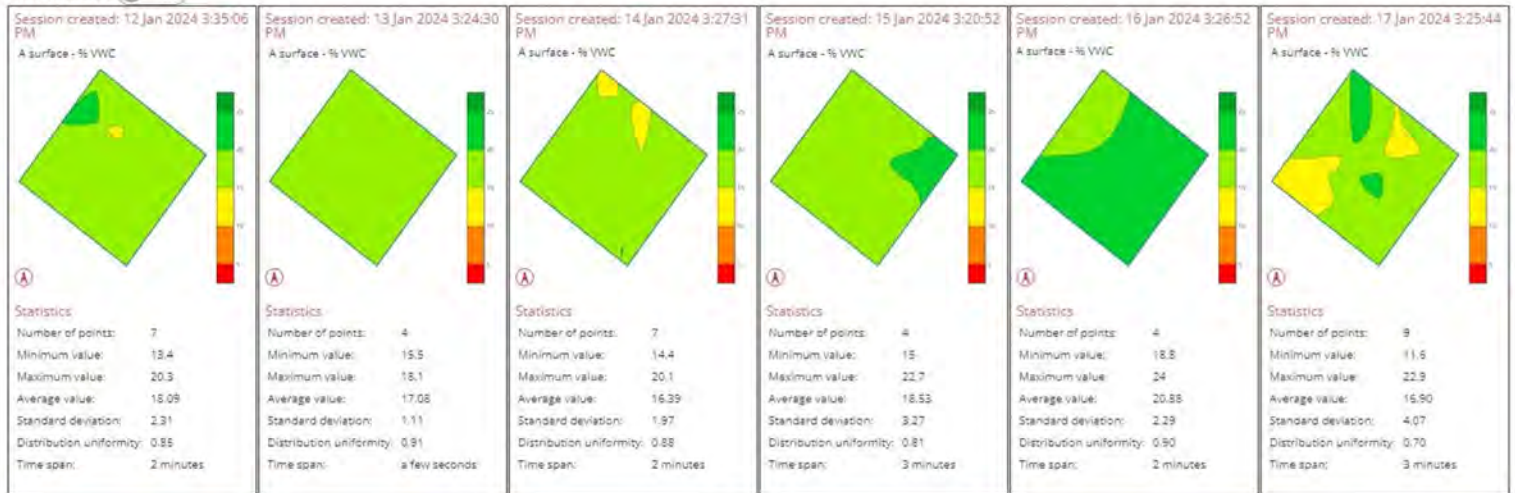
The Spectrum FieldScout TDR 350 goes beyond traditional moisture meters by providing accurate and instantaneous readings. This not only streamlines the irrigation process but also results in significant water savings. The innovative technology empowers turf managers to fine-tune their irrigation strategies, ultimately optimizing turf health.

This investment in smart irrigation management showcases a commitment to environmental sustainability and resource efficiency. As the Spectrum FieldScout TDR 350 continues to prove its worth in Hong Kong, it stands as a beacon of modern turf management, demonstrating how technology can revolutionize practices, promote healthier landscapes, and contribute to a greener future.



## FieldScout Surface Report - A

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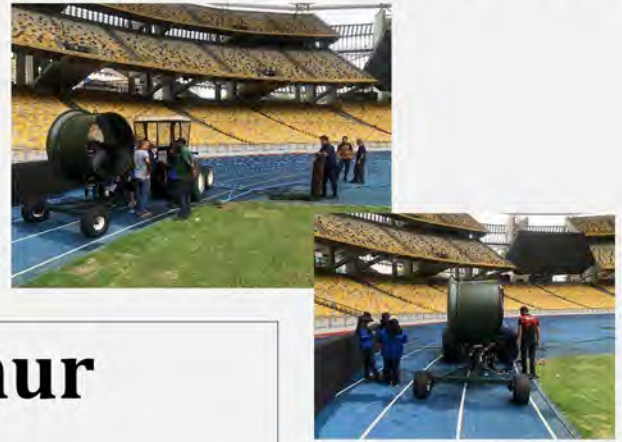


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# Enhancing Turf Conditions: TurfBreeze Fans Provide Cooling Solution

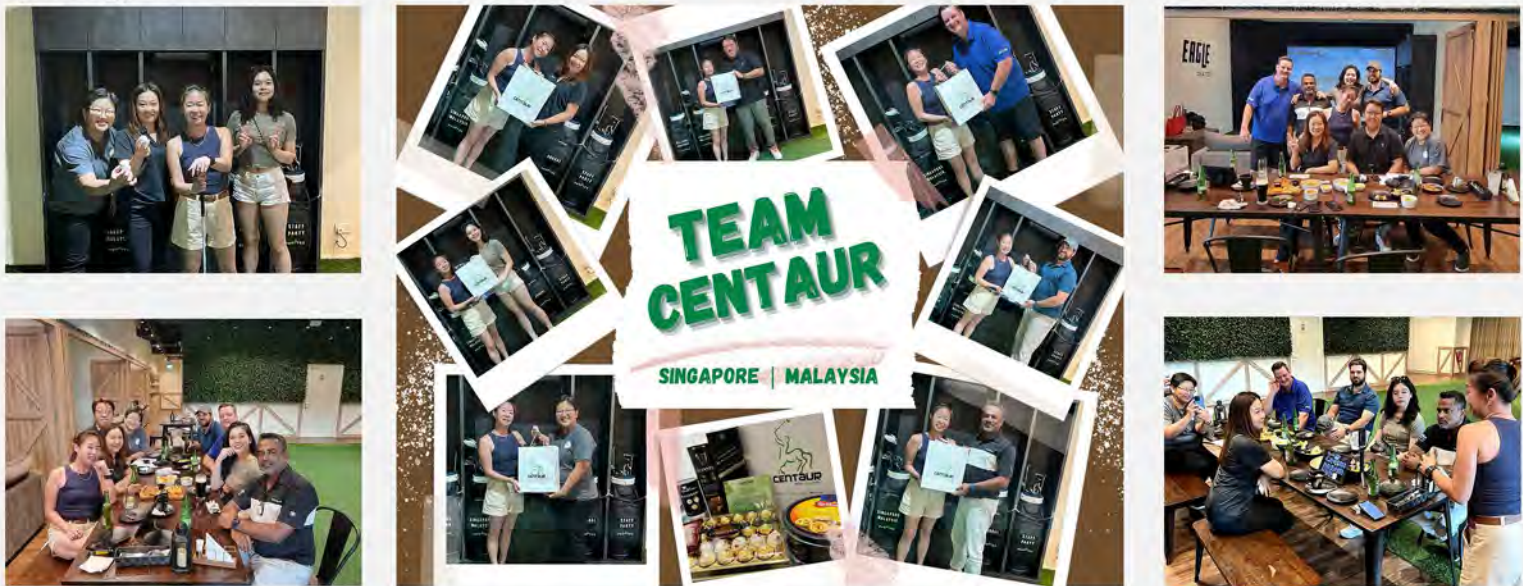
The Bukit Jalil National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, has embraced an upgrade in turf management with the recent delivery of three TB59DD TurfBreeze Fans. Designed to enhance turf and field conditions, these fans play a crucial role in surface aeration, effectively reducing heat stress on the natural turf. By promoting increased grass transpiration, the fans contribute to internal cooling, fostering overall turf health. Particularly beneficial for shaded turf areas, where limited air circulation is often unintentionally designed in stadiums, the introduction of TurfBreeze Fans marks a significant step towards ensuring optimal conditions for the stadium's greenery.



## Year-end Party for Centaur Singapore and Malaysia

In commemorating a successful year in 2023, Centaur Singapore and Malaysia gathered at ParTee Golf to celebrate their achievements. The venue resonated with laughter as team members enjoyed lively rounds of golf on the simulator, accompanied by delightful food and drinks. The afternoon's focal point was a friendly competition, with deserving winners receiving prizes.

Deputy General Manager Lyna Low took a moment to commend the team, expressing gratitude for their dedication and collaborative spirit throughout the year. Beyond being a memorable celebration, the event also served to set a positive and optimistic tone for the upcoming year.



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