

## Propane group highlights on-site refueling options

As sports turf managers research new additions to their mower and work truck fleets one of the most important considerations is refueling. Whether a fleet is used to maintain a single field, or many across a wide area, making sure both mowers and trucks can be easily refueled saves time, effort, and cost.

More than 15 models of propane-fueled commercial mowers are available today from industry-leading brands, while over the past 20 months, 10 new vehicle platforms fueled by propane autogas have been introduced to the market. Ease of refueling has accelerated the use of both types of equipment.

A number of options exist for centralized, on-site refueling for both applications, making these mowers and trucks feasible for fleets that service large or multiple areas. Cost-saving measures also are available for the installation of infrastructure, and the fuel itself.

Fleets adopting propane-fueled mowers and work trucks fueled by propane autogas can refuel via the same centralized, on-site infrastructure, which can be tailored to fit its unique needs. Depending on storage necessity, longevity and available space, managers can choose between several options:

- Skid-mounted above-ground portable platforms
- Permanent above-ground stations
- Underground storage tanks

Skid-mount systems are typically pre-assembled, making installation or relocation quick and inexpensive, and allowing for safe refueling without the permanence of stationary systems. Skid-mount systems include an above-ground propane tank, dispenser, pump, piping, and control panel mounted on a concrete or steel frame to create a portable unit that can be installed, and then relocated in a matter of days if necessary. They require no permanent changes to the installation site, though above or underground storage tanks are also an option for longer-term use.

Local propane providers can help determine the best on-site refueling option for their mower and truck fleets, and facilitate ongoing fuel delivery. That includes mower



**>> PROPANE-FUELED COMMERCIAL MOWER CYLINDER EXCHANGE PROGRAMS** usually include installation of a cage and replacement of empty cylinders during regularly scheduled deliveries. The cylinders can be refueled via a centralized, on-site refueling infrastructure.

cylinder exchange programs, which usually include installation of a cage and replacement of empty cylinders with full ones during regularly scheduled deliveries. Propane providers also offer appropriate training to ensure safe refueling practices are always used. Thousands of refueling stations across the country also make propane autogas readily available for off-site refueling (see <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/locator/stations/>)

### MANAGING COSTS

The federal government, along with many states, offer programs to encourage the use of propane as an engine fuel. Currently, a 50-cent-per-gallon alternative-fuel tax credit is available for vehicles fueled by propane autogas. Federal tax credits are also available for 30% of the installation cost up to \$30,000 of alternative refueling structures. Consult their tax advisor regarding claims for credits or refunds, and the IRS website for appropriate dates and forms.

Operators can also increase savings as propane-fueled commercial mowers can operate during pollution advisory periods, such as ozone action days, when local regulations ban gasoline mowers to protect air quality.—Brian Feehan, Vice President, Propane Education & Research Council. ■



### One machine, one operator from Kromer

The Field Commander Chameleon uses a “one machine, one operator” concept to maintain both natural and synthetic turf fields. This machine can groom, condition, level, paint, stripe lines, apply logos, end zone markings, yard markers, and coaching boxes. It also sprays water, chemicals, and disinfectants for both indoor and outdoor applications. The synthetic turf version can even cut a line and remove painted lines and logos in just minutes. All Field Commander units can be customized to meet your needs and budget.

**Kromer Company**

### Stow-n-Go athletic field marker

Tru Mark Athletic Field Marker introduces the Model EZ-70 Stow-n-Go field marker. Tru Mark incorporated their proven floating paint shoe technology for crisp field lines on a three wheel steel chassis for durability and control even when painting curved lines and in close quarters. The EZ-70's walk behind compact design with ergonomic folding handlebar assembly ensures lightweight mobility. This field marker integrates easy operations and maintenance capabilities with a removable 5-gallon paint tank, a 12 volt sealed battery and an industrial strength 12 volt diaphragm pump. The EZ-70 along with SwitchBack Double Play Liquid chalk satisfies both natural grass and synthetic turf applications with easy removable performance of tradition powdered chalk.

**Tru Mark**



### New, lighter synthetic field groomer

Wiedenmann has introduced the new, lighter weight Terra Groom. The design and placement of the brushes is a combination of zigzag brushes with a straight row of brushes in the front and rear of the brush. Wiedenmann engineers discovered that using stiffer bristle brushes on the front, straight row of the Terra Groom created results similar to that of using the rake finger attachment, and without the risk of catching a seam. The resulting distribution and decompaction of the infill is equal to or better than the results created when using rake fingers.

**Wiedenmann North America**



## Redexim North America introduces tool Carrier

Redexim North America is now offering a new independent power unit that they call "The Carrier." The Carrier is a short, three-wheeled, self-propelled power unit that features a 32 hp, rear 540 PTO and hydrostatic drive. The Carrier can be fitted with multiple attachments including a Verti-Drain aerator that provides six inch depth, a verti-cut unit, a top-dresser and several seeder attachments. Large turf tires provide traction and keep ground compaction to a minimum even when fully loaded.

**Redexim North America**

## Easily removed paint

Temp-Stripe athletic field marking paint applies like normal paint but is removable from synthetic turf. The exclusive formula was designed and developed for temporary use on synthetic turf fields in which numbers, lines, logos and boundaries require a quick change over following an event. Temp-Stripe is available in all team colors. Removal is accomplished with light to moderate water pressure and scrubbing or with help from our Port-A-Scrub paint removal machine. No costly chemical solutions needed. Because the colors are organic in nature and biodegradable, it is low VOC and safe on turf, uniforms and players. It's the original Temporary Athletic Field Paint.

**Whitlam Paint Company**

## Aerosol paint from Louisville Slugger

Louisville Slugger® Game Time Sports Systems' Strip-It aerosol cans have uniform coverage and quick drying results, crisp lines, perfect for marking all athletic fields. Available in white and 11 colors. Free shipping on 15 cases or more.

**Game Time Sports Systems**

## Hash mark painting system

Made of lightweight aluminum and foldable, the Line Up from Diversified Sports Specialties is a self-aligning hash mark painting system that comes in 5-yard units. It is 4 x 6-foot, made of 1/8-inch aluminum, with offsets built in for quick alignment. Three font types available and billed as "the only painting system you'll ever need."

## MarkSmart Pump & Go Spray Liner

When it comes to field set-up and marking, the MarkSmart Pump & Go Spray Liner is a great, low-cost alternative to aerosol can painting. No more "stop, change and shake"; it's faster and leaves a more vivid line than aerosol. There is no motor, no compressor and no battery. It uses pre-mixed, ready-to-use EZ Paint and its 2-gallon capacity holds enough paint to do a soccer field or "touch-up" multiple soccer or flag football fields. Made in the USA and is companion to MarkSmart Field Lining Kits, allowing for faster, permanent field set-up and marking.

**Markers, Inc.**

## Rubber drag mat

Earth & Turf Products, LLC, announces its heavy duty rubber drag mat for breaking up debris after core aeration and leveling fields after topdressing. Mats measure 6 ft. x 6 ft. and 3/4 in. thick, of recycled rubber. Durable hitch system sandwiches rubber between two steel plates using 7/16 in. bolts. All mats are shipped rolled up and bound with two strong cable ties. Total weight of each mat is 133 lbs. Pull chains are not included.

**Earth & Turf Products, LLC**

## New fungicide

Quali-Pro has added Tebuconazole 3.6F fungicide to their turf portfolio. It provides excellent preventative and curative control on a broad spectrum of disease pathogens, including dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, snow molds and more. A systemic mode of action delivers up to three weeks of residual control and its multi-site activity is excellent for rotation in resistance management programs. Low use rates and the latest "mix-friendly" Quali-Pro formulation make Tebuconazole 3.6F easy to work with and convenient to apply. Labeled for disease control on warm and cool season grasses, golf course turf and around landscape, nursery ornamentals, Tebuconazole is not for labeled for use on residential lawns.

**Quali-Pro**

## Varsity chalk line markers

Straight field marking is a cinch with the chalk line markers available at Future Pro. These marking units are constructed of heavy-duty galvanized and powder coated steel for years of use. Choose 50 lb. or 100 lb. capacity. The four 10-inch diameter cushion wheels and ergonomic handle design make both models easy to roll. There's a smooth chalk shutoff for consistent lines. Spray paint line markers are also available. Future Pro is an authorized Bison dealer, and won't be undersold on Bison equipment.

**Future Pro**



For more information on any of these products, please visit [www.greenmediaonline.com/productportal](http://www.greenmediaonline.com/productportal)