RAIN BIRD®

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Have you seen the GSP Member Website? Go online to www.rainbird.com/gspmember to login and access past GSP Quarterly newsletters, maintenance check sheets, webinar recordings and more!
Not sure how to login to the GSP Member website? Contact GSP at (866) GSP-XPRT to verify your username and password.

Questions, Comments and Feedback:
Please contact editor Christine Gery at cgery@rainbird.com

2010 GSP Webinar Schedule

Refresh your memory on software tricks, learn how to troubleshoot your own weather station, and find out how to improve your system's operating efficiency, all in one season!

Sign up now!
Go to **https://www.regonline.com/rain_bird_gsp_2010_webinar_schedule** and sign up for one webinar or all five at no cost to you! Webinars are taught by Rain Bird Product Experts or GSP Engineers, and include Q&A time at the end of each session.

On Demand!
Log on to your GSP Member web page at **www.rainbird.com/gspmember** to watch past webinar recordings, review key tips, or view with your staff, all when it's most convenient for you.

Bonus!
Our new schedule features topics suggested by GSP members during last year's webinar sessions!

2010 GSP Member Webinars

May 25, 2010 9AM - 10AM (PST)
Best Practices for Grounding and Lightning Protection

June 18, 2010 9AM - 10AM (PST)
Weather Station Troubleshooting

July 20, 2010 9AM - 10AM (PST)
Water Window Efficiency

August 24, 2010 9AM - 10AM (PST)
Advanced Central Control Software Tips & Tricks

September 21, 2010 9AM - 10AM (PST)
Installing and Configuring RainWatch™

The Engineer's Corner

Avoid Pump Station Pump/Motor "Hunting" and Save Dollars

By Tim Hoffman, GSP Engineer

If the Pump Properties Table in Flo-Manager® is incomplete or has less than ideal flow levels and delays, the pump station may be "hunting" for the correct pump/motor combination to best maintain the preset discharge pressure while irrigating. The pump station may be starting and stopping motors excessively in an effort to control discharge pressure.

Depending on the pump station, hunting can result in early motor failure, wasted power, and can be hard in general on the irrigation system if pressure spikes and dips occur. Ideally, during an irrigation cycle the Pump Properties Table is set up to automatically buffer increases in flow demand before and after the pump station enables additional motors.

A buffer will prevent flow at or near the flow maximum capacity of each subject pump/motor. A good buffer is +/- 150 gpm of a confirmed maximum flow rate of a pump/motor.

The example on page 2 shows a typical pump station equipped with two 75 horse-power vertical turbine motors on a wet well. Confirmed maximum capacity is 750 gpm per pump/motor, giving the station 1,500 gpm in total capacity at the desired discharge pressure.

Continued on page 2

Product Profile: New Rain Bird Hose-end Nozzles

By Lloyd von Scheliha, Product Manager

Rain Bird – Golf Division recently introduced the new Rain Bird® Hose-end Nozzle product line. These hose-end nozzle products are designed for the demands of the rugged golf course environment and built to be durable, reliable and easy to use.

Whether it is syringing greens, watering approaches or simply hosing down equipment the new Rain Bird Hose-end Nozzles are available in multiple flow rates so you can get the right flow for the right application. One size does not fit all, so the quick connect couplers allow you to quickly and easily switch between the nozzles, so you can be ready with the right nozzle for each situation.

The nozzles are available in three flow-rates.

The golf course is a dynamic and challenging environment. It is important to have a product you can rely on. The powder-coated aluminum construction and high grade rubber bumper offer a product that is built to last, even under the most grueling conditions.

The spray patterns are fully adjustable from a cone pattern to a straight stream pattern to provide maximum flexibility in the application of the water.

Multiple flow rate options, durable construction and flexible spray patterns are just three reasons to try the new Rain Bird Hose-end Nozzles and quick connect couplers on your course. To learn more about the new Hose-end Nozzle and quick connect couplers, go to www.rainbird.com.

Ask you Rain Bird golf distributor to show you the new Rain Bird Hose-end Nozzles and see it for yourself.

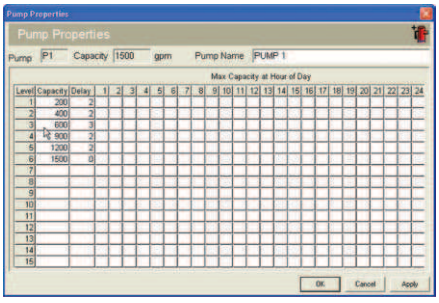
Part #	Description	Max Flow Rate*	Optimal Flow Rate
NZ0100HF	High Flow Nozzle with 1" (25mm) inlet NPSH	98 gpm (6.1 lps)**	20/60 gpm (1.3/3.8 lps)
NZ0100MF	Mid-Flow Nozzle with 1" (25mm) inlet NPSH	57 gpm (3.6 lps)	35 gpm (2.2 lps)
NZ0075MF	Mid-Flow Nozzle with 3/4" (19mm) inlet GHT	57 gpm (3.6 lps)	35 gpm (2.2 lps)
NZ0100LF	Low Flow Nozzle with 1" (25mm) inlet NPSH	54 gpm (3.4 lps)	10/24 gpm (0.6/1.5 lps)

* Max flow based on flow at 100 PSI. Flow Rates will vary based on inlet pressure and friction loss through hose.
** Use only with 1" or larger I.D. Hose

Pump/Motor "Hunting"

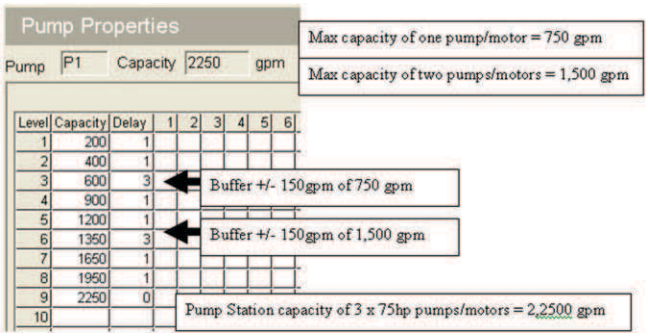
Continued from page 1

Notice level 3 is set to 600 gpm capacity and level 4 is 900 gpm, making up the buffer of +/-150 gpm based on the pump/motor's maximum capacity of 750 gpm. The delay at level 3 is three minutes and allows time for the flow to settle. This delay may need to be higher depending on the site, but settle times are rarely shorter in duration.



The number of levels and buffers will vary depending on each individual site. The best values for avoiding pump station hunting will cause flow demand to skip over any flow level in question that may promote hunting for pumps/motors at the pump station.

Also note, additional motors require additional buffers. For example, buffers for typical pump stations consisting of 3 x 75 horsepower motors.



As always, feel free to contact GSP for assistance in this matter. To learn how to set up your central control software to automatically avoid pump station hunting, log on to the GSP Member website at www.rainbird.com/gspmember.

Spotlight On: The Villages, Florida

By Bryan Campbell, Manager, GSP Services

The Villages, the largest golf community in the world, has just renewed 15 Golf Central Control System GSP Plans in a vote of confidence for the features, benefits, and ease of use of Rain Bird central control software and the backing of the most comprehensive technical support plan in the industry.

Choosing 5 year plans with new computers, The Villages' superintendents will be able to take advantage of Reservoir to Rotor support from Rain Bird's team of GSP Engineers for advice on system optimization through Water Window Efficiency evaluations, weather station integration, Temporary Station Adjust, the revolutionary Rain Watch™ water conservation utility, discounts on Board Exchange Program orders, and general troubleshooting support on all components of their systems. Rain Bird is looking forward to continuing the long relationship with The Villages and we'd like to take the opportunity to say thank you for choosing Rain Bird.

Tips & Tricks

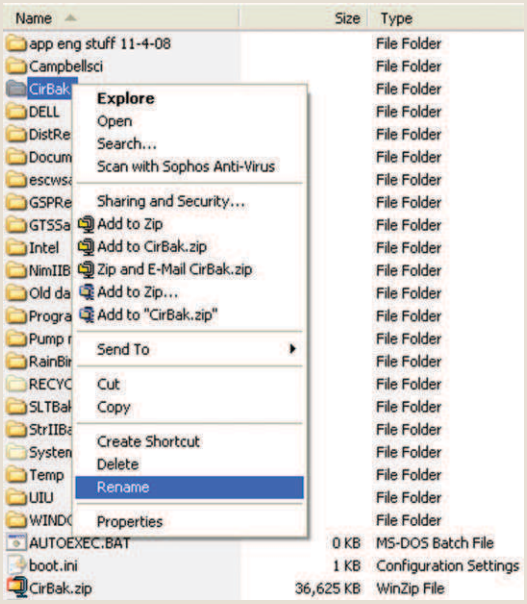
Renaming a Back-Up

Once you have created a one touch back-up and would like to rename the folder just follow these steps:

1. Locate the CirBak folder under the C drive or removable zip drive from where the back-up was created. If you have Nimbus™ II, Stratus™ II or StratusLT™ then the back-up folders will be called NimIIBak,StrIIBak or SLTBak accordingly.
2. Right click the Cirbak folder and left click rename.
3. Rename the folder to what ever you like and click enter.

Suggestion: For an easy reminder of your last update, date the file within the files name. For example: Cirbak 2-25-10. The next time you create a one touch back-up it will create a whole new Cirbak folder and you can repeat the process.

*** If you do not rename the database it will just override the old one and keep the latest copy. By renaming the back-up it allows you to have different copies.



Did you know that GSP also offers many hard to find items for maintaining your irrigation system?

Have any questions, comments or
suggestions for future articles?
Would you like to receive this newsletter electronically?
Do we need to update your contact information?

Contact the editor:
Christine Gery
cgery@rainbird.com
(520) 434-6266

Rain Bird Corporation
6991 East Southpoint Road
Tucson, AZ 85756
Support: (866) GSP-XPRT
Fax: (866) 429-5708
Email: gsp@rainbird.com
www.rainbird.com/gsp

Rain Bird Corporation
Global Service Plan
6991 E. Southpoint Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85756