



..... FEATURE ARTICLE

Green is Definitely Their Colour

Women in the Green Industry

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NEW!

The NEW
XC Hybrid Controller



The MP Rotator
& MPR40



Hunter's New
Blue PGP Nozzles

Women in the Green Industry.

These days, women around the world are making Herculean advances in our industry. Not surprising. Each brings her own brand of expertise and professionalism, making a distinct contribution to the business.

Kate Denton, for one, is a designer for HydroPlan in Adelaide, Australia. She started her career in irrigation right after receiving her degree in Agricultural Science from the University of Adelaide, at the agricultural Roseworthy campus. Denton always had a real leaning for agriculture, but when she started at University, what appealed to her were the maths-oriented subjects such as irrigation design. After graduating, the only independent irrigation design consultancy then in Adelaide – HydroPlan – seemed the logical place to look. Luckily, they wanted to expand.

Denton believes more women are drawn to the horticultural side of the business rather than “pipes buried in mud with redback spider-infested valve boxes...” yet her suggestion to people entering any part of the field is “go for it!”

“The irrigation industry needs more experienced people and individuals willing to learn,” says Denton. “It is challenging to find people with good qualifications as it is not an industry many people immediately consider when choosing a career.”

Denton worked for HydroPlan for two years in irrigation design, augmenting what she had learned at University, before traveling to England and then doing golf design for an irrigation company. Subsequently, she signed on



Kate Denton, HydroPlan Designer in Adelaide, Australia

Benefits of Irrigated Urban Landscape.

1. 10,000 m² of turfgrass sequesters approximately one ton of carbon per year.
2. Turfgrass traps 12 million tons of dust and dirt each year.
3. 230 m² of turfgrass produces enough oxygen for a family of four.
4. Trees and turfgrass provide substantial local cooling. >>

“I believe education needs to focus more on irrigation; it affects everyone.”

—Kate Denton

with Hunter Industries, opening the sales office in Adelaide and becoming a Sales Manager. After eight years, she was eager to return to design and auditing work, so she returned to HydroPlan. Throughout her career, Denton has also taught Design and Irrigation auditing for both TAFE and the Irrigation Association.

Like her US counterparts, Denton believes one of our greatest challenges as an industry is creating more awareness of efficient irrigating. She believes more uptake of technology is important.

“Education is key,” says Denton. “Often turf managers don’t fully understand how to maximise on-site water use efficiencies as their training has not focused on irrigation.” She also contends that while irrigation historically has been “one of the lowest priorities,” that with prolonged drought conditions, awareness is on the rise.

“I believe education needs to focus more on irrigation as it is key to optimising plant performance and health. Here in Australia the government has over-allocated water: they sold more water licenses thinking it would be okay. Yet, policy decisions made for short term

financial gain ultimately impact everyone and, of course, the environmental sustainability of our water supplies, currently a big problem.”

On the consumer side, the emphasis must also be on conservation. Denton explains that

smarter operators are realizing the importance of upgrading their systems. “Sometimes irrigation is considered last and people install the least expensive system,” she says. “We need to look at what will save water and have the most payoff in the long run. The more people understand the plant/soil/water relationship, the better,” she adds.

In France, Nadine Cavani is chief designer for Imaginieur S.A.S, a French irrigation company founded by Didier Comte. Since 1995, she has worked for Imaginieur, a design firm specializing in water engineering for irrigation, drainage, fountains and waterfalls as well as for green spaces and sports fields, from golf courses to parks and gardens. A member of the European Irrigation Association (E.I.A.) and the American Society of Irrigation Consultants (A.S.I.C.), the firm’s clients include landscape architects, municipalities and private investors. Prior to joining Imaginieur, Cavani worked for a company that completed electricity studies.

Cavani attended school specifically to study design engineering. She worked in the irrigation business before she integrated the landscape company into her irrigation design department. For ten years, she studied irrigation systems for another company. Now, with more than 20 years’ experience in water management, Cavani is well-versed in the nuances of designing irrigation while conserving the maximum amount of water.

Regarding roadblocks along the way, Cavani asserts that sometimes the dialogue with males was challenging. “Some men find it difficult to accept that a woman is the manager of a department with a high level of technical competence.” Cavani points out she doesn’t have that issue at her company, which employs more women than men.



“To those considering a career in the industry, acquire good technical knowledge, with an in-depth understanding of site constraints as well as economic and environmental realities.”

—Nadine Cavani
Chief Designer for Imaginieur S.A.S, France

NEW!

XC
hybrid

Be Flexible with Hunter's New XC Hybrid Controller.

Finding the ideal location for installing the irrigation controller is never easy. You identify that that perfect spot only to find that routing wires to provide power to the controller is too difficult, or the outlet to plug in the controller transformer is too far away.

No need to worry any longer. Hunter Industries is pleased to introduce the new XC Hybrid Controller to our controller lineup. It has all the same great features of the Hunter XC Controller, but operates DC latching solenoids with battery power. Designed for both indoor and outdoor installations, the XC Hybrid provides maximum flexibility. Based upon the popular and proven XC Controller, the XC Hybrid is available in 4, 6, 8, 10, & 12 stations models. With a 365-day calendar, three independent programs (each with four start times), global seasonal adjustment, non-volatile memory, and sensor control by station, the XC Hybrid is your controller that does it all.

Think of all the irrigation applications where the combination of DC latching solenoids, and a battery powered controller will solve an installation problem. With up to 12 station capability, the XC Hybrid is your solution for a wide range of residential and commercial applications, which include small residential, parks, gardens, medians, roundabouts, etc.

No power? Not a problem with the XC Hybrid! >>

Hunter's new XC Hybrid Controller allows you to install a controller when power is not readily available. The XC Hybrid gives you maximum flexibility.

NEW!



New PGP Blue Nozzles: Built to Perform.

The PGP Blue Nozzles promise advanced function and people want them, it's that simple. While the existing red nozzles continue to keep millions of turf acres green around the world (not to mention plenty of loyal customers satisfied), the Blue Nozzles offer another choice with a different spray pattern and great performance.

"At Hunter, we have always made a commitment to talk to our customers: people that visit us here at the factory, and people we meet in the field," explains Steve Hovel, Hunter Product Manager, Rotors.

"Our engineers travel and show products to contractors, gathering feedback we combine with ample data from our test department to show us areas we can improve," says Hovel. "All of that information has led to the creation of Hunter's new PGP Blue Nozzles, featuring the spray patterns and coverage so many requested."

You'll find even, uniform distribution with exceptional close-in watering and a mid-range trajectory, a narrower stream, an improved rack of eight nozzles, and even easier installation with a new flat face that enables quicker insertion.

Additional features include a superior scheduling coefficient that eliminates over or under-watering in spots, and an intuitive numbering system for easy identification with the flow rate marked clearly on each nozzle.

Finally, the nozzles are compatible with the existing PGP Rotor Heads, and can be retrofitted back to the 1982 heads if necessary. Check them out. >>





Have You Been Thrown A Curve?

The MPSS530 Side Strip Model Handles It with Ease.

Once again, progressive Hunter Industries takes the lead in innovative technologies. This time, it's an extension product designed to enhance another existing technology, the MP Rotator®. The new MP Rotator MPSS530 is a side strip model designed to adjust easily to virtually any—and we mean any—curved landscape.

Options abound with this product. Essentially, it is a rectangular pattern that can be kinked at the head location. You'll find you can bend it inward to fit a concave curvilinear layout of heads or kink it outward to irrigate a convex curvilinear landscape. What's important is you can thoroughly apply water to stunning and even atypical layouts without missing any sections. Add to that its ability to target water with exceptional aim: it helps avoid throwing wasted water on hardscape. Let's face it, the result is what we all strive for: saving water. Not to mention irrigating effectively. Whether it's a gradual, graceful arc or a sharp curved configuration, any edge can be watered efficiently because this product adapts to the specific needs of the site. Innovative? We think so.

In addition, the MPSS530 applies water more slowly, truly an advantage. For example, when properly installed, the MPSS530 side strip pattern irrigates at a considerably slower rate than traditional spray heads.

"The water is applied at approximately one-third the rate," explains Gene Smith, Sr. Product Manager of Hunter Industries. "As such, you get deeper penetration of water to plant roots, healthier subsequent root development and less wasteful runoff." Clearly, low application rates also help reduce water runoff on slopes and tight soils.

As if that weren't enough, the MPSS530 is engineered for superior performance in windy conditions. Truthfully, most installers and designers understand that irrigating during windy conditions isn't efficient. As many know, though, irrigation can continue without people realizing just how much water is being wasted. The MPSS530, as with all MP Rotators, performs better even while the wind is blowing. Why? The MP Rotator® technology features high energy streams that function well even in windy weather. So you get excellent uniformity and wind-resistant operation all the time.

As Gene Smith explains, "Each stream effectively cuts through the wind to land in the specific landscaped area far better than typical spray nozzles."

Of note, both the side strip and left strip come with an adjustable right edge. The MPSS530 really works its magic is on the side strip right edge to meet the needs of a job requiring watering along a curve.

Even more, as many know, the MP Rotator® technology has consistently stood the test of time, operating reliably for more than two decades in the most exacting agricultural conditions. That's further proof that any evolution of extension products is likely to complement it with the same level of durable quality. Of course, there's no need to change nozzles to maintain matched precipitation either, so you benefit from even more convenience.

The MPSS530 is a product ideally suited to meet the needs of today's increasingly popular curved landscape designs. To be honest, competitors' products simply can't deliver this level of performance for sites with rounded configurations. As always, Hunter takes it to the next level to simply your irrigation needs.

If you have curvilinear patterned landscapes that require special irrigation, it's well worth your time to investigate the MPSS530. It'll water all those hard to reach places, slowly, uniformly and reliably. Whether the wind is gusting or not.

When you get thrown a curve, get the MPSS530 side strip model: the product you'll need to stay on track. >>



TECH » TIP



System Service Queries

Q: What type of solenoid should I use with Hunter's battery-operated controllers?

A: A battery-operated controller sends a quick DC pulse to operate the solenoid, therefore the battery-operated controller requires a Hunter DC latching solenoid to operate correctly. Also, the DC latching solenoid will have one black wire for the common wire and one red wire for the station wire. It is important that the wires are connected correctly for proper operation.

Q: Why does the pop-up spray weep/leak water when the water is off?

A: There are two reasons why a pop-up spray will leak water when the water is off. The most common reason is called "Low Head Drainage" this is when the lowest head on the zone drains the water from the lateral piping out of the sprinkler. If it is low head drainage, the drainage will stop after all the water has left the pipe. The solution is to install check valves in the sprinklers. Most Hunter sprinklers are able to have check valves added in the field after they are installed.

The other reason may be water leaking through the valve (a check valve in the sprinkler will not fix this leak). The most common reason why water leaks through a valve is because there is debris in the valve.

The solution is to disassemble the valve, rinse all the parts with clean water and re-assemble the valve. You may need to replace the diaphragm assembly if there is visible damage from the debris.

For more information, call our Technical Services Department at: +1 760-591-7383, then press option #3. >>



Women in the Green Industry.

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To those considering a career in the industry, she recommends acquiring good technical knowledge, with an in-depth understanding of site constraints as well as economic and environmental realities. She underscores staying on the leading edge with new and evolving technologies.

Like so many others, Cavani believes we need more efficient irrigation. She says that "due to the unforeseeable climatic changes, water has become one of the greatest challenges of our century. We must have sensible, analytical water management that meets the growing obstacle to do more with increasingly less water."

This view is shared by another well-known professional, Roxene Carroll, a director and co-owner of Rainlink Australia Pty Ltd. Created to focus on central control systems, her company began with a concentration on database, training and management. Later the firm expanded to meet the growing need for design, consulting and supply as well as construction of golf course irrigation. It provides the complete array of services from initial planning to implementation. Her firm is also involved in Council central control, irrigation audits, and recommendations for both improving system efficiency and reducing water consumption.

"The irrigation industry must show commitment, guidance and professionalism to government and water authorities, promoting water efficient products, training and good irrigation management."

—Roxene Carroll

consulting with "a young girl." Although she concedes that in earlier years, a directed career path with management opportunities eluded her, once she started her own company she could augment her business activities with greater responsibilities.

On the role of women in the industry, she believes that employers are more and more interested in training women for retail sales as well as design. She contends that women are excellent multi-taskers, a big advantage in smaller irrigation companies where you often require more than one skill. Further, more women gravitate toward garden design which tends to enhance interest in irrigation. For those up and coming in the business, she says that both education and practical field-based training are vital.

"Both theory and actual involvement in the whole process provide a much greater understanding for newcomers," says Carroll. "The knowledge gained from contracting is invaluable to a designer."

Carroll is a CID for both landscape/turf and for golf as well as a CLIA. In addition, she has long been active on Irrigation Association committees. Proud of her firm's achievements, she continually endeavors to increase client understanding of good sprinkler uniformity, among other issues. Her company "insists on GPS retrieval to ensure the central data base is as accurate as possible for 'as constructed' spacing and precipitation rates." With a talented and capable workforce, her people always strive for the highest standards.

Carroll believes the irrigation industry must show "commitment, guidance and professionalism to government and water authorities, promoting water efficient products, training and good irrigation management." Her view is long-range, her solutions are wise.

"With the current drought, we must communicate the advantages of effective irrigation," says Carroll. "Our association members must proactively promote very efficient water use to the community. We must ensure that sports facilities are irrigated without being viewed as wasting water. Rather, they must be seen as a benefit for the health and well-being of the public who use the turf."

No matter where you are around the world, we all seek solutions to the same industry challenges. With capable people such as Kate Denton, Nadine Cavani and Roxene Carroll at the helm, we're making a difference, no doubt. >>

FEATURE ARTICLE



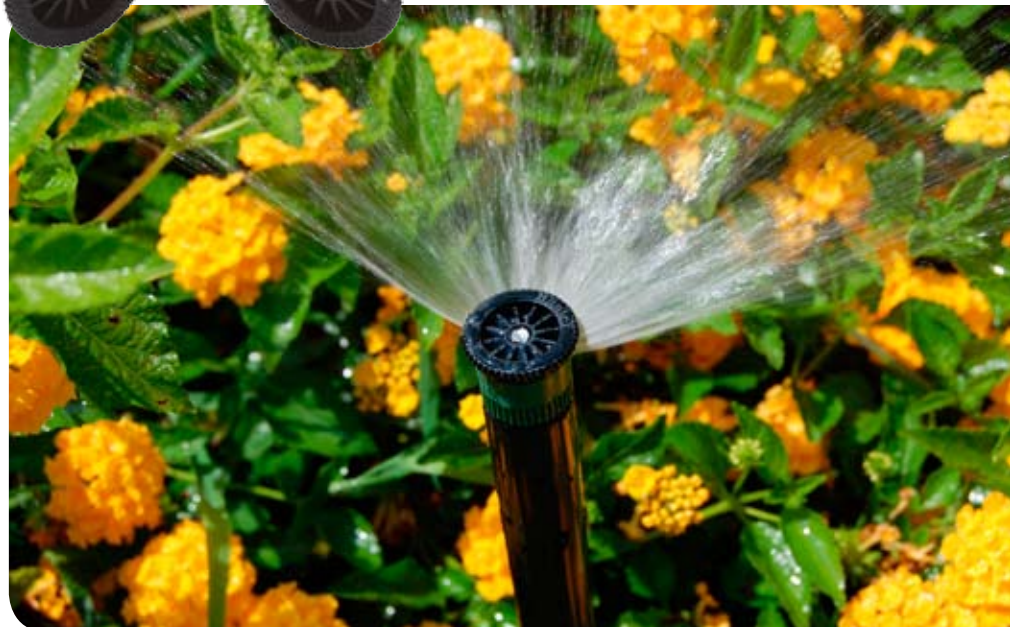
Pro Adjustable Nozzles. Better from Every Angle.

Our all-new redesigned Pro Adjustable Nozzles have taken performance to new heights. Which is why we consider them the "new breed" of adjustable nozzles.

Once again, because we couldn't leave well enough alone, Hunter incorporated key customer feedback and embraced the project with trademark enthusiasm. As with all existing adjustable arc nozzles, ours were challenged by some of the typical shortcomings: undefined and short trailing edges, uneven distribution and complexity in making adjustments, among others.

John Wascher, Sprays Product Manager, is confident about their significantly improved function. "Hunter's new Pro Adjustable Nozzles have been completely redesigned... from the large water droplets that significantly reduce the effect of wind to the uniform pattern providing great coverage, these nozzles outperform anything currently on the market."

Make no mistake, the new Pro Adjustable Nozzles have precise, sharp edges, easier adjustment, more dirt tolerance and, let's just say it, spray patterns as effective as any fixed arc nozzle. That's progress. Without question, they throw more uniformly, and of course maintain matched precipitation. Add to that easy identification at a glance with convenient color coding. Now, you have a product that delivers everything a professional installer needs on the site. >>



THE backpage

Water: Tall Order, Short Supply.

We all know Why: our most precious resource faces the specter of scarcity. More to the point, the issue on the tip of everyone's tongue is How? And therein lies the question. How will we find better methods and technologies to conserve? As part of Hunter's continuing quest, water saving articles like this one will be a regular feature in future newsletters.

With a view to new and better ways that achieve water-efficiency, our intention is to create content that educates, stimulates and motivates. With rising water costs, which historically have been low, and new programs, change is on the horizon. New programs include the Irrigation Association's Smart Water Application Technology (SWAT), a national plan for landscape water efficiency through technology and good management, as well as the EPA's new WaterSense program, a campaign to encourage efficient irrigation. SWAT represents, as it says, "a giant leap for residential irrigation."

Until recently, many consumers never actually thought about what it cost to operate an irrigation system due to the relatively affordable cost of water. The point now is that contractors like you have a tremendous opportunity to lead the way: by installing water-efficient systems, you can make a profound difference in water usage, one customer at a time.

Many believe that contractors are the link to the ultimate consumer, which is a powerful place to promote change. In addition, your customers will seek you out for your knowledge and expertise, a factor that will become increasingly vital as water shortages prevail. The more contractors understand the science of irrigation, the better for everyone.

For our part, all of us at Hunter pledge our commitment to provide solutions that help accomplish our collective mission. It is, in the end, one shared by us all. So that one day, when our children, and their children, ask if we did everything possible to save water, we can look them square in the eye and say, "Absolutely." >>