

# CASE STUDY

## PROPEX SUPERGRO® KEEPS GOLF COURSE LOOKING GREEN



A new golf course at Spring Hill Golf Club was built on a 200-acre tract off highway 101 and County Road 6, in Wayzata, 15 miles west of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The course was designed to take advantage of the natural rolling hills of that area. The same slopes that are desirable to golfers are challenging to the establishment of a good stand of grass. Such topography is subject to soil loss due to erosion which can impede the germination and establishment of vegetation.

### THE CHALLENGE

Because most of the golf course fairways were either sloping or were adjacent to steep slopes, an erosion control system was needed which would retain soil, and promote rapid vegetation. In addition to the requirement that the erosion control material prevent soil loss from slopes, the golf course management had other considerations in selecting an appropriate product. A product that was quick and easy to install which could remain in place after the vegetation was established could save considerable time in the golf course preparation prior to the scheduled opening. Products that require removal and disposal after vegetation is established would also not leave any lasting reinforcement.

### THE SOLUTION

Tim Johnson, Project Manager for the Spring Hill Golf Club, had used Propex Landlok® SuperGro® successfully on other projects and specified the lightweight synthetic green fiber and netting

composite, to meet the specific demands for erosion control on the sloped areas and even some of the nearly flat areas adjacent to slopes on this new course. The golf course architect, Tom Fazio, and Landscapes Unlimited, the contractor for the project, agreed that it was a suitable erosion control product for this site.

QUICK AND EASY  
INSTALLATION, ALONG  
WITH THE FACT THAT  
THE PRODUCT COULD  
BE LEFT IN PLACE AS  
THE GOLF COURSE WAS  
USED, MADE  
SUPERGRO® AN IDEAL  
SOLUTION TO  
POTENTIAL SLOPE  
EROSION AT SPRING  
HILL GOLF CLUB.

### PROJECT FILE

PROJECT ▶ SPRING HILL GOLF COURSE  
LOCATION ▶ WAYZATA, MINNESOTA  
PRODUCT ▶ PROPEX LANDLOK® SUPERGRO®  
APPLICATION ▶ EROSION CONTROL  
SUPPLIER ▶ BROCK WHITE



Propex Landlok® SuperGro® was an excellent solution for the potential problems posed by this golf course.

▶ CONTINUED ON BACK

# CASE STUDY

## CONTINUED

The erosion control composite was installed between late May and October of 1998. Since the golf course was scheduled to open in June of 1999, it was vital to achieve the best results possible in a short time frame. The first order of business was to establish the maximum possible ground cover in the remaining 1998 growing season. Brock White Company, in St. Paul, Minnesota, delivered approximately 200,000 square yards of the specified erosion control product to the golf course. Tim Johnson determined the areas where erosion protection was needed to hold the seed in place. He chose to use the synthetic fibrous matrix with bent grass in the fairways and with fescue in the perimeter areas. Kentucky bluegrass was selected for the rough. Sod rather than seed was used, since this variety of grass takes a particularly long time to become established. The following steps were used to apply the erosion control product:

- Areas where the fibrous composite was to be applied were graded and smoothed, and seed was spread on the prepared ground.
- The synthetic erosion control blanket was rolled over the seeded soil.
- Six inch U-Shaped pins were inserted on ten to twelve foot centers to secure the material.
- The seed and green synthetic fiber were watered into the soil.
- After two to three weeks when seed germination began, the pins were removed so that future golf play and course maintenance would not be impeded. By this time the erosion control revegetation mat had become well adhered to the ground so that it would not blow or pick up.

### PERFORMANCE

At the site of the golf course, newly seeded areas covered with the erosion control product quickly began to sprout, and established a good base growth before winter began. As is common practice, seed was added to some areas to thicken growth. Getting denser grass growth in these areas was accomplished by simply aerating right through the erosion control composite and re-seeding on top. These newly seeded areas grew in quickly and were successfully established well before the scheduled opening. Areas seeded with fescue and covered with the synthetic erosion control composite grew in as thick as the Kentucky bluegrass sod used in the rough.



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