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## **Club Car and SolarDrive Help Superintendents**

### **Harness the Power of the Sun**

#### **Solar Canopies Extend Range, Lower Charging Costs, Cut Carbon Emissions**

AUGUSTA, GA (Feb. 10, 2010) – Club Car and SolarDrive are putting the sun’s energy to work for golf course superintendents and their crews. Following the introduction in 2009 of solar-powered solutions for Club Car’s electric golf cars, Club Car has announced that three models from its Turf line of utility vehicles can now be equipped with solar canopies that can extend the vehicles’ range by approximately 30 percent while lowering charging costs and reducing carbon emissions.

The solar canopies, which are engineered and produced by Club Car Solutions Network member SolarDrive, capture energy from the sun and transfer it to the vehicle’s battery system, resulting in additional range between charges. Each solar-cell canopy is capable of producing 200 watts of electrical energy and needs only daylight to operate.

The canopies can be retrofitted or purchased as an option on Club Car’s Turf 1, 2 and 6 models.

“The solar canopies give courses the added assurance that their utility vehicles will not deplete their battery capacity, even on days when the vehicle is on the job from sun up to sun down,” said Bill Hodge, Aftermarket Category Manager for Club Car.

Club Car and SolarDrive officials say the solar canopies can increase vehicle range by approximately 30 percent. The amount of extended range will depend on the load being carried, the grade of the terrain the vehicle is driven on and the amount of sunlight the vehicle receives during the day. For example, a SolarDrive-equipped utility vehicle being driven on hilly terrain in central California during summer months potentially could be driven five miles farther per day than a non-SolarDrive equipped vehicle.

The canopies also help courses lower electricity costs associated with charging their vehicles as well as manage their facilities in a more environmentally friendly manner by reducing their overall carbon footprint from electricity consumption.

“As a leading proponent of environmental sustainability, we are pleased to partner with SolarDrive to encourage the use of solar energy in ways that not only promote sustainability and reduce our customers’ energy use and costs, but also increases their vehicles’ drive-time.” said Gary Michel, president and CEO of Club Car.

The manufacturer’s suggested retail price of a SolarDrive canopy for a Club Car utility vehicle is \$2,495. SolarDrive canopies purchased for business use also qualify for a 30 percent energy property tax credit through the federal Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

#### **About Club Car**

Club Car has been one of the most respected names in the golf industry for more than half a century. The company’s dependable and efficient Precedent golf cars and Carryall Turf utility vehicles are integral to the successful operations of thousands of courses in the U.S. and around the world. The world’s largest manufacturer of electric vehicles is also recognized as an innovation leader. The Visage Mobile Golf Information System is the latest in a long line of technical advances that improve the golfer’s experience as well as help courses operate more efficiently. The Augusta, Ga.-based company, a division of Ingersoll Rand, is equally respected for the support it provides the game’s leading associations and organizations, including the PGA of America, the NGCOA, GCSAA, CMAA, The First Tee and the Executive Women’s Golf Association. For more information, go to [www.clubcar.com](http://www.clubcar.com) or [www.ingersollrand.com](http://www.ingersollrand.com).

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**About SolarDrive**

SolarDrive specializes in applied solar technology primarily for mobile use. It develops highly efficient solar products for electric vehicles and off-grid solar powered products. SolarDrive equipped vehicles are capable of transferring between 200-400 watts of energy to a vehicle's battery system depending on the size of the vehicle. Amongst other benefits, this results in carbon free charging and driving and considerable additional range between charges in typical applications. SolarDrive, has a global distribution network and has solar-powered fleets operating successfully across the USA, Asia and Europe. For more information visit: [www.solardrive.com](http://www.solardrive.com).

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