



*Thanksgiving Point Golf Club, Lehi, UT
Superintendent: Jason Robert*

-MISSION STATEMENT-

The Utah GCSA is dedicated to improving the superintendents' position in the golf industry through education, networking, advocacy and to grow the game of golf.

-VISION STATEMENT-

The Utah GCSA is a community of golf course management professionals and a go-to information source to enhance and grow the profession.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ July 19: Assistant's Meeting @ Riverside Country Club
- ✓ July 28: Chapter Championship @ Thanksgiving Point Golf Club
- ✓ September 9: Assistant's Meeting @ Willow Creek Country Club
- ✓ October 5-6: Annual Meeting, Wendover, NV
- ✓ November 9: Virtual Facility BMP Meeting



OFFICERS

- President: Nate James, Soldier Hollow Golf Course
- Vice President: Brian Roth, CGCS, Oquirrh Hills Golf Course
- Secretary/Treasurer: Wes York, Oakridge Country Club

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- Jay Geise, Hobble Creek Golf Course
- Dallin Naulu, The Oaks at Spanish Fork
- Mike Valiant, CGCS, Glenwild Golf & Spa
- Josh Virostko, Lakeside Golf Course

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

- Brecken Varah - Willow Creek Country Club

AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVES

- Eric Allred, Green Source, LLC
- Ross O'Fee, CGCS, Empire Turf, Inc.

PAST PRESIDENT

- Alan Davis - Willow Creek Country Club

NEWSLETTER EDITORS IN CHIEF

- Alan Davis & Kara Davis

UTAH GCSA OFFICE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nate James, Soldier Hollow Golf Course

Hi UGCSA Members,

Most municipal water providers saw commercial water use plummet at the beginning of the pandemic, but those savings were quickly erased once the hot summer rolled in and the region's residents switched on their sprinklers.

This probably isn't the end of golf. But it does mean players have to change their expectations, and golf course owners and operators must adapt. This could mean shrinking course size from the traditional 18 holes to 9 holes to accommodate water shortages.

Golf courses receive close scrutiny about the water they use, especially in Utah and other drought-prone areas. Climate stresses are raising the stakes. Rising temperatures require Superintendents to use more water to grow the same quality of turf. Prolonged and severe droughts decrease available supplies. Wildfires are burning hotter and lasting longer.

The increase in residential irrigation use has more than offset the decrease in commercial use, resulting in above normal water use across the service area. The short story from our perspective is that we are seeing higher use this watering season because of very hot, dry conditions.

"Drought conditions are at their worst on record in the state," said Candice Hasenyager, deputy director of the Division of Water Resources. ***"Reservoirs are 15% lower than last year, and water levels in many rivers are 50% lower than last year,"*** she said.

Though I didn't have the opportunity to speak directly with deputy director, Candice Hasenyager, I did have the opportunity to speak to a couple of her colleagues. In this newsletter, you can find the interview with Kim Wells and Rachel Shilton from the Division of Water Resources.

Sincerely,

Nathan James



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CHAPTER EXECUTIVE'S CORNER



Ahhh, summer!

The season of long, hot days and little rest. Thinking of you all as you conquer the daily to-do list. Very few are as lucky as golf course superintendents fortunate enough to watch the sunrise each morning.

Here are a few reminders and items of interest...



The Utah GCSA store is open! As of right now, we have tees, travel mugs and hats. Check back as we will be adding items periodically and doing special order items. Let's see you show off your chapter spirit!



Get to know your fellow members with our monthly Member Spotlight. These are posted on Twitter, our website under the "Membership" section, and also included in our quarterly newsletters.



Do you have an education topic you'd like to hear? Send any requests to me and we'll make it happen!

Natalie Barker, Chapter Executive



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CALL FOR UGCSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If you would like to run, or nominate someone you think would do a great job on the Utah GCSA Board of Directors, send us your/their name and course. The following positions will need to be filled:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary/Treasurer
- (2) Directors
- (1) assistant superintendent liaison
- (1) affiliate/vendor representative

The time requirement is very minimal; however, we are looking for members who are dedicated and enthusiastic about improving our chapter. The board meets on an as needed basis in a central location or via video call.

We've come a long way and need your help to keep our chapter successful!

Voting for these positions will take place at the Annual Education Conference & Trade Show.

The deadline for nominations for the 2022 UGCSA Board of Directors is

August 20, 2021.

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DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES INTERVIEW

Article by Utah GCSA President, Nate James

Golf courses are supposed to be doing their part to save water. Many golf courses are taking the drought seriously as well, as evidenced by the brown grass and landscaping that have become increasingly common at Utah Golf Courses.

But are most golf courses following the rules?

It's an impossible question to answer. With uneven transparency from the golf industry and no enforcement from the state, water use at many golf courses remains shrouded in mystery.

Coming out of what we just went through in the pandemic and the controversy that swept the nation. There's a lot going on and we need to take action, especially if the drought keeps getting worse – tough decisions will need to be made.

It would be easy enough to demand that all water users provide basic information about how much water they're using. Collecting this kind of basic information is the job of the state, and local water agencies. This is why I asked the Division of Water Resources the following questions:

1. Through the eyes of the Division of Water Resources, how are golf courses viewed?

"Misunderstood. We often hear 'I'll conserve when [fill in the blank with a government building, park, school, business, golf course, neighbor, etc] does. Golf courses are an important recreational outlet. We recognize watering a golf course is different from a residential yard. With the entire state in 'extreme drought,' the governor is asking all of us – including golf courses – to look for ways to reduce our use and take drought actions. This goes beyond the usual 'water conservation' measures that are always best practices. Also, we just saw this in the KSL comments on a drought story: 'I will sacrifice my lawn and all of the cemeteries, park strips, and take only 1 shower a month before letting the golf courses' grass die. Golf>Hygiene'"

2. In regards to irrigation water, what does the future of Utah water look like and how does that involve golf courses?

"Water used by golf courses is theirs, either because they supply their own water or because they purchase the water from a water provider. Any new golf course would have to obtain its own water rights or negotiate with a water provider for irrigation water. Our role as a planning agency is to look for balanced solutions like conservation, efficiency, optimization, agriculture conversion and water development to meet water needs now and into the future. Traditionally, two-thirds of Utah's growth has come from natural increase as current residents have children. But this percentage is declining with more people moving in. People have discovered that Utah is a great place to live, work and play – and they don't bring

CONTINUED...

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES INTERVIEW (CONT'D)

water with them. Water Resources is one of several state agencies that share stewardship for the state's water management. (Drinking Water, Water Quality, Water Rights, Dept. of Agriculture, and Division of Administrative Rules)"

3. If the DWR could request one thing from golf course superintendents, what might that be?

"Look for ways to improve efficiency to help stretch this limited resource. Educate, educate, educate. Educate your visitors and use social media to tell your water story. How are you being efficient with your use? Is your aesthetic landscaping water-wise? Do you use drip irrigation? Can these be demonstration gardens for your clientele? How does grass benefit the environment? How do your water features benefit the environment? Are they wetland areas that can filter water from the course irrigation? Acknowledge you use a lot of water and that you make the best use of it possible."

4. Has the DWR had any in depth conversations with golf courses (golf superintendents) about irrigation conservation and best management practices?

"Several years ago, DWRe researched water use by golf courses. At that time, we did have conversations with individual courses. I am not aware that we've had discussions with the Utah Golf Course Superintendents Association."

5. Golf courses are often thought to be some of the larger users of water whereas most golf courses are arguably some of the biggest stewards of water. Would the DWR agree or disagree with this statement and why?

"It would depend on the golf course and what steps they are taking to be efficient. Commercial golf courses tend to be more efficient with water because saving water equates to potential profits. They don't overwater turf. They employ full-time professionals whose reputations are built on maintaining healthy turf. There's always more that can be done, but we recognize change takes time and can be costly."

6. When it comes to secondary (irrigation) water, is there a structure of priority or importance? If so, where are golf courses on that list?

"In Utah, there is no structure of importance. Water is provided for use by prior appropriation, commonly characterized as "first in time." Secondary water, or untreated water, used for the irrigation of outdoor residential landscaping and gardening, is managed by the irrigation company providing the water. A golf course could also own water rights. In that case, their priority is associated with the original dates of the water rights."



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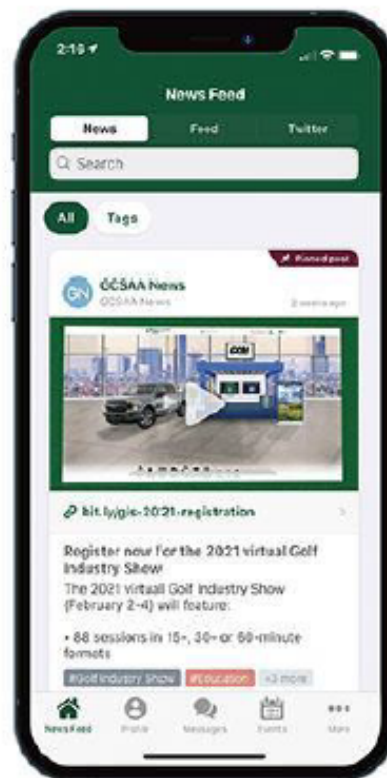
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- Find other members in your geographic proximity with the Near Me feature.
- Keep track of national and local GCSAA happenings with the Events feature.
- Have easy access to membership documents and other information in the Resources section.



ChAPPTer Challenge

Help your GCSAA-affiliated chapter win \$500 by downloading the GCSAA Now Mobile App. There are two ways for a chapter to win:

- Most chapter member who have downloaded the GCSAA app
- Highest percentage of the chapter membership who have downloaded the GCSAA app

The contest runs May 4-July 31, 2021. You must be a member of the GCSAA-affiliated chapter for your download to count in the contest. Once you download the app, share this page or the QR code with your fellow chapter members to increase your chance of winning.







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APRIL

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**10 Questions with
Steve Ahlander, Assistant Superintendent @
Bonneville Golf Course in Salt Lake City, UT**

**1. HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN UTAH?**

I have lived in Utah for my entire glorious 32 years.

2. WHY UTAH?

Because I enjoy fall, winter and spring. You can go from in the city to the mountains in an hour. Great landscapes and just honestly a good community to live in.

3. WHERE ARE YOU FROM ORIGINALLY / RELOCATED FROM RECENTLY?

I don't know if this really applies to me – I grew up in Millcreek.

4. WHAT DREW YOU TO YOUR CURRENT FACILITY?

I had been a seasonal/hourly at both Nibley and Glendale golf courses during my high school and first years of college. The golf course maintenance/irrigation position at historic Bonneville became available. I thought it would be a great opportunity to start a career path of something I grew to love.

5. ENJOY CITY OR COUNTRY MORE?

Is it fair to say that I enjoy both? I grew up on the edge of Salt Lake City so there are things that the city offers that I enjoy. At the same time, I love the open air of the country that I just don't get to enjoy as much as I would like being so busy during the season.

6. HOBBIES / INTERESTS?

I enjoy golf, bowling, camping. I don't play many video games but if I do its Assassin's Creed. Most of all, I enjoy my planted aquariums.

7. HOW IS YOUR GOLF GAME? HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU PLAY A YEAR?

My golf game could be better, but it could be worse....I play in our men's league once a week unless we have a tournament or other pressing matters. It is important to me to play my course as often as I can.

8. FAVORITE PRO / COLLEGE TEAMS?

If there is any one thing most people know about me is that I am a die-hard Minnesota Vikings fan. I also always have the Utah Jazz and the Seattle Mariners in my heart. Thus, my resiliency in overcoming heartbreak is tested multiple times a year.

9. WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING SITUATION (WORK OR PERSONAL) YOU'VE BEEN IN?

I would have to say 2020. Between the pandemic, earthquake, heat wave, drought, and finally a wind event in September. I can just remember experiencing a "what next?" type of year like this one. At the same time, we had more rounds than we had ever had in my time at Bonneville.

10. ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SHARE?

Just a special shout out to my co-workers – Bryan Witzel and Tyler "Bo" Benson. Teamwork makes the dream work!

MAY

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**10 Questions with
Brack Crouch, Equipment Manager @
Talisker Club at Tuhaye in Park City, UT**

**1. HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN UTAH?**

I moved to Utah in September of 2013

2. WHY UTAH?

Although the location of the workplace was not of great importance at the time, I have grown to really enjoy Utah over the last 7+ years. The move to Utah gave me the opportunity to return to an industry that I truly love and to team up with Brian Renschler again after about ten years. Thanks to Mike Valiant for bringing me on board.

3. WHERE ARE YOU FROM ORIGINALLY / RELOCATED FROM RECENTLY?

I am originally from Golden Colorado, just outside of Denver. I moved to the Park City area after living near Vail Colorado for 15 years.

4. WHAT DREW YOU TO YOUR CURRENT FACILITY?

The people. I would have gone anywhere to be part of a team this strong. Tuhaye has become dear to my heart and I am very proud to call it home.

5. ENJOY CITY OR COUNTRY MORE?

I enjoy the mountains most. I have always lived in or near the mountains.

6. HOBBIES / INTERESTS?

Mountain biking, off roading in my Jeep, golfing and fly fishing

7. HOW IS YOUR GOLF GAME? HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU PLAY A YEAR?

My golf game is a work in progress. My handicap is about 11. Although it may not be possible, I try to play at least once a week. 20 to 30 times a year is probably about average.

8. FAVORITE PRO / COLLEGE TEAMS?

Colorado Rockies, Denver Broncos and University of Colorado Buffalos

9. WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING SITUATION (WORK OR PERSONAL) YOU'VE BEEN IN?

Sleeping at 20,000ft on a 23,000ft peak in Argentina and deciding not to go for the summit. After two weeks of hard work to get to that point, our team had to turn around due to bad weather.

10. WHAT ARE THREE THINGS IN YOUR "TOOLKIT" THAT YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT?

Teamwork, a multi-meter and a big hammer

JUNE

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**9 Questions with
Tracy Howard, Superintendent @
Carbon Country Club in Helper, UT**

**1. HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN UTAH?**

All my life although I spent six years in South Dakota.

2. WHY UTAH?

Born and raised.

3. WHERE ARE YOU FROM ORIGINALLY / RELOCATED FROM RECENTLY?

I am from Salt Lake City and moved to Price in 2006.

4. WHAT DREW YOU TO YOUR CURRENT FACILITY?

Change of pace after living in South Dakota. I wasn't much for the big city.

**5. ENJOY CITY OR COUNTRY MORE?**

Definitely country!

6. HOBBIES / INTERESTS?

Hunting, golfing, four-wheeling, and time with my grandkids.

7. HOW IS YOUR GOLF GAME? HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU PLAY A YEAR?

I'm still working on it, but I try to play as much as I can (as long as it's not hunting season!)

**8. FAVORITE PRO / COLLEGE TEAMS?**

I don't really have a favorite pro but if I had to choose it would be our pro Tom King.

9. WHAT ARE THREE THINGS IN YOUR "TOOLKIT" THAT YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT?

Multimeter, sprinkler key, and my crew.

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We are underway for the Superintendent, Assistant and Salesperson of the Year awards!! This is a great opportunity to nominate an individual that you think is doing a stellar job. Please take a few minutes and submit a deserving member of the Utah GCSA for these awards by August 20th, 2021.

Nominations

- Nominate a Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and/or a Salesperson.
- To nominate, submit the name, course and justification to the UGCSA office.
- Nominations may be emailed to intermountaingcsa@gmail.com
- Or, nominations may be mailed to UGCSA P.O. Box 572583 Murray, UT 84157.
- Superintendents can also be nominated by golfers via UGA website.

Requirements

- Nominations must be submitted by **Friday, August 20, 2021**.
- Nominees should not only be exceptional turf managers but also active in chapter activities, developing their staff, being a team player, and a champion in growing the game of golf.
- Winners must be a current 2021 member of the UGCSA.

Winners

- Winners will be chosen by the current UGCSA Board of Directors based on the number of nominations and justifications provided.
- They will be announced at 2021 Annual Education Conference & Trade Show.
- Winners will receive a plaque, full event package to the Annual Conference and a \$100 Visa gift card!!!



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Thanks to everyone who participated in the FMC Kalida Masterpiece Hunt Game at the virtual Golf Industry Show this year. Our chapter ranked 13th place and earned \$750 that was allocated to the Riley Stottern Benevolent Fund!



Read more about FMC's Give Back Awards in the press release on the following page.



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FMC'S GIVE BACK AWARDS



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Local GCSAA Chapters Begin Reinvesting in Golf Industry with FMC Give Back Checks *For Chapters Receiving Donated Funds, Education is an Overwhelming Priority*

PHILADELPHIA (June 8, 2021) — One consistent and overwhelming theme rings true among local Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) chapters on the receiving end of donations totaling \$25,000 – made possible through the FMC Professional Solutions Give Back to Local Chapters program. They strive to “give back” with their Give Back.

While a handful of chapters out of 30 are still determining how they will use their 2021 FMC Give Back donation checks, many of the chapters have big plans for the donated funds. The top 30 chapters earned awards from \$250 to \$5,000, distributed after participating in 2021 Golf Industry Show activities tied to FMC’s Kalida™ Fungicide launch earlier this year.

“We truly appreciate those companies that see value in the local chapters and try to help them out,” said Carolinas GCSA Executive Director Tim Kreger. The Carolinas GCSA plans to fund an additional scholarship this year with the \$1,000 Give Back check they received from FMC.

Like the Carolinas GCSA, local chapters impacted by the extra funds earned in the Give Back program overwhelmingly plan to apply the donations primarily towards education initiatives in the form of scholarships, training, seminar hosting and workshops for their members or turf students. A few are building full-scale educational events to take place later in 2021 or in 2022, now that Covid-19 restrictions are easing in many parts of the country.

CONTINUED...

FMC'S GIVE BACK AWARDS (CONT'D)

Page 2/Local GCSAA Chapters "Give Back" with FMC's Give Back Awards "Give Back to Local Chapters" Initiative

"Thanks to FMC's support of the Minnesota GCSA, we will use this unexpected money to support scholarships to attend the Great Lakes School of Turfgrass Science online educational courses. Each year, the MGCSA sponsors up to five individuals who complete the ten-week program. It is a win-win for the industry and the student. The Give Back to Local Chapters program helps make this opportunity possible," said Minnesota GCSA Executive Director Jack MacKenzie.

As superintendents need to have such a broad knowledge base and multidisciplinary approach to their work in an industry with continuous advancements in management practices, plant science, regulations and even equipment, it is easy to see why so many chapters look to foster education and choose to spend any extra funds on it.

"We want our members to thrive, and education is an investment in their success. Our industry is constantly evolving, and continuing education is critical to keeping current with the latest research advancements, best management practices, regulations and product releases," said GCSA of New Jersey Executive Director Maureen Sharples.

One admirable non-education use of an FMC Give Back donation is being implemented by the Utah GCSA chapter. "We have allocated our funds to our local Riley L. Stottern Benevolent Fund. The goal of the fund is to do as much good as possible for all Utah GCSA members and their immediate families who may be burdened by a serious illness, a death or other hardship. The money is greatly appreciated and will help our members in need," said Utah GCSA Chapter Executive Natalie Barker.

"We strive to support local chapters who can benefit in various ways from the support," said FMC golf and lawn care market manager Evan Parenti. "To see the FMC donations fostering educational initiatives is especially rewarding as that knowledge only makes the industry better and stronger."

Don Hearn, executive director of the New England GCSA, said that his chapter is looking to highlight the work of superintendents and points out what all of these efforts are really about – the game of golf.

"We plan to use the funds to assist with the production costs of a video highlighting the work of superintendents who help make golf an enjoyable experience for those who play the game."

CONTINUED...

FMC'S GIVE BACK AWARDS (CONT'D)

Page 3/Local GCSAA Chapters "Give Back" with FMC's Give Back Awards "Give Back to Local Chapters" Initiative

The FMC Give Back to Local Chapters initiative was driven by [FMC True Champions](#), a program launched in spring 2019. A key feature of the program is to support industry associations such as GCSAA chapters, We Are Golf and RISE. Superintendents can enroll for free, and FMC will track purchases of qualified products throughout the season and then submit their "give back" donation directly to their local GCSAA chapter. Qualified products include Fame™ SC, Rayora™ and Kalida™ fungicides. Through August 2021, a percentage of sales of those products will be donated to local GCSAA chapters.

FMC True Champions

The FMC True Champions program is a source for golf course superintendents and managers to access valuable Product Rewards and Product Assurances. It also has a third pillar, Industry Support, that highlights industry initiatives and associations like GCSAA, We Are Golf and RISE.

###

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- Anti-stress technology
- Wellness triggers
- Super efficient potassium
- Antioxidants
- Growth promotion
- Improved photosynthesis

BELOW GROUND:

- Rooting technology
- Food for soil microbiology
- Proprietary three part organic acid blend
- Improved nutrient availability
- Key sugars for plant health and microbial stimulation
- Rich carbon supply for rhizosphere

DUAL ACTION SOIL SURFACTANT

Infinite



Infinite is the first soil surfactant that includes multiple ingredients, designed to manage both soil moisture, plant stress and recovery. A multiple polymer product, fortified with two novel technologies; Patent pending DiuTuron and Templar.



Empowering You to
Grow Your Business™

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TSP 07025A 01 PL 00-09-21



- Zachary Gillars, Assistant Superintendent – Rose Park Golf Course
- Todd Clyde, Assistant Superintendent – Oquirrh Hills Golf Course
- Michael Baca, Equipment Manager – Cedar Ridge Golf Course
- Cody Sirkel, Equipment Manager – Fox Hollow Golf Course
- Jan Carlos Valdivia, Assistant Superintendent – Fox Hollow Golf Course
- David Strobel, Assistant Superintendent – Victory Ranch



HIGH-PERFORMANCE GREENS NUTRITION

The combination of Contec DG® - Gen 3 dispersing granules and Foltec® SG soluble granules provides ideal premium nutrition for greens, tees, and other fine turf.

CONTEC DG - GENERATION 3

Gen 3 represents the latest evolution of the Contec DG product range. Featured on select products, these granules are easy to spread and easy to see, saving turf managers both time and money. Gen 3 granules are completely homogeneous, allowing for a consistent spread pattern. Applications of Contec DG provide baseline nutrition ideally complemented by foliar applications of Foltec SG.

FOLTEC SG

Foltec SG is an innovative foliar nutrient technology utilizing a proprietary combination of dry, 100% soluble nutrient granules that quickly solubilize in the spray tank. Each Foltec SG product contains a specific N-P-K ratio along with essential micronutrients, UltraMate SG (humate/carbon) and sea plant extract. Packaged in resealable foil-lined bags, Foltec SG avoids the shipping of water and disposal of plastic jugs.



TurfNutritionTool.com

Use the TNT to build a customized nutrition program featuring Contec DG and Foltec SG.



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