



United States Golf Association

Golf House, PO Box 708, Far Hills NJ 07931-0708

T 908 234-2300 F 908 234-9687

www.usga.org

Notice to Manufacturers

The USGA is currently in the process of implementing the Indoor Test Range (ITR) to measure golf ball distance for conformance to overall distance limits. Part of this implementation has been to discuss the test method with ball manufacturers. From these discussions, the USGA has been made aware of concerns of golf ball manufacturers that the launch conditions used by the ITR may be significantly different from those achieved by actual golfers, including Tour Professionals.

In response to these concerns, the USGA has begun measuring ball launch conditions of professional golfers. This work will result in a data-supported understanding of the ball manufacturers' concerns so that the ITR implementation can be completed in an appropriate manner. This data collection will continue at various venues until a full understanding of launch conditions has been established and, if required, any appropriate modifications to the indoor test range can be made. The USGA continues to welcome participation of ball manufacturers in the process of developing the test. Accordingly, we invite manufacturers to submit additional ball launch data.

This means that the ITR implementation will be delayed from the goal of January 2002 to a later date - probably a matter of months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dick Rugge".

Dick Rugge
Senior Technical Director
United States Golf Association

DR:lg
July 12, 2001