

For Immediate Release

International Tree Climbers To Compete at The Morton Arboretum

CHAMPAIGN, IL (June 25, 2010) - The world famous Morton Arboretum will be the site for the championships of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) international tree climbing competition on July 24 and 25. The world's best professional tree climbers from around the globe will be showcasing their skill and agility at maneuvering in the trees.

The tree climbing competition simulates working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform five different events during the preliminary round. Each event tests a competitor's ability to professionally, and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner.

Preliminary competition events for The International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) presented by The Davey Tree Expert Co. will be held on Saturday, July 24 with the finals on Sunday, July 25. This unique event is held in conjunction with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) annual conference that will follow the competition.

Showcasing the highest level of professional skills and safety, the events provide a competitive learning environment for those working in the industry. "The ITCC is an opportunity for arborists from around the world to learn new techniques from one another and to see the use of new and different equipment," says ISA Executive Director Jim Skiera. "Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work."

Winners of regional competitions held around the world are invited to compete in the championships. Skiera says, "This competition brings together the best of the best from around the globe." Over 50 competitors representing 15 countries will be competing to earn the title of world champion.

The male and female competitors with the highest scores during the preliminary events move on to compete in the Masters' Challenge competition sponsored by Husqvarna which will be held on Sunday, July 25. The Masters' Challenge winners from each division are named the world champions. This title allows them to return the following year to defend the championship.

ISA will also host an Arbor Fair at the park on Saturday during the finals. There will be public education exhibits and demonstrations, as well as a fun tree climb. Though all events are free and open to the public, admission to The Morton Arboretum is required.

ISA has held the annual international competition since 1976. For more information on the ITCC presented by The Davey Tree Expert Co., visit the website via www.isa-arbor.com. Details regarding the annual conference, ISA, and a schedule of events can also be found on the ISA website.

About ISA

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the consumer education web site, www.treesaregood.org, which fulfills the association's mission to help educate the public about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA's dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit www.isa-arbor.com



International Society of Arboriculture

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