

For Immediate Release

World Champion Tree Climbers Each Claim Third Title

CHAMPAIGN, IL (August 8, 2014) – New Zealand and the UK emerged on top at the International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) held Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The event, presented by the Davey Tree Expert Co., brought together professional tree climbers from 20 countries to compete for the title of World Champion. A total of 57 competitors came together from North America and countries as far away as Japan, New Zealand, Australia, and throughout Europe for the event.

The event, organized by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is held annually in conjunction with the ISA Annual International Conference. Regional competitions are held around the world by chapters and associate organizations of the ISA. Competitors earn the opportunity to represent their chapter at the international event.

The tree climbing competitions demonstrate the working conditions of professional arborists who work in the trees. The event provides a learning environment for those involved as they demonstrate and develop their professional skills and practice safe techniques. “The ITCC provides a great opportunity for arborists from around the world to learn about new techniques and see new equipment in practice,” says Jim Skiera, Executive Director of ISA. “Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work.”

Scott Forrest of New Zealand won his third title as Men’s World Champion. This is the seventh international competition for Forrest who previously won the title in 2011 and 2013.

Women’s champion Josephine Hedger of the United Kingdom was competing for the sixth time. Hedger is also a three-time winner having claimed the title in 2008 and 2010.

Competitors competed in five separate preliminary qualifying events in which the top three scorers were awarded medals and cash prizes. The top overall scorers (four men and three women) then moved on to the Masters’ Challenge Finals sponsored by Husqvarna. The male and female world champions receive cash prizes, chainsaws, champion belt buckles and plaques, as well as other prizes donated by event sponsors.

For more information on the ITCC and for complete results, visit www.itcc-isa.com.

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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