



VALLEY CREST TREE CO. RECEIVES NATIONAL SAFETY AWARDS

CALABASAS, CALIF. (June 6, 2003) — Valley Crest Tree Company, a premier tree grower and provider of nursery products, and tree moving and preservation services, was recognized by the Associated Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA) for superior practices in safety by winning six of the association's annual awards.

The company's Nursery Division in Sunol, California, received five of the honors in the most sought-after category: creating and maintaining a safe work environment. Awards and their categories won by the branch included a 1st Place in Fleet Safety, 2nd Place in Combined Employee & Fleet Safety; 3rd Place in Employee Safety; and Most Improved Fleet Safety. In addition, the division also received a No Vehicle Accidents Award. "Safe work environments show our employees and customers that we care," said Robert Crudup, Jr., president and chief operating officer. "We will continue to promote safe work habits on a daily basis because we recognize the importance of safety, and know that our performance in this area continues to set us apart."

Garden Art International, the company's pottery, foliage and garden décor division, based in Santa Ana, California, received the group's No Vehicle Accidents Award.

ALCA's award program for workplace safety impressively highlighted Valley Crest Tree Company's strong commitment to protecting employees through strong workplace safety and health efforts and enhancing the awareness of safety as a critical tool for personal well being and operational efficiencies.

The Safety Contest reflects ALCA's—and its insurance partner CNA's—dedications to creating and maintaining safety in the landscape industry. The program is designed to reward landscape contractors who consistently demonstrate their commitment to occupational safety. ALCA is a national association representing approximately 2,500 professional landscape maintenance, installation and design/build firms and suppliers nationwide.

About Valley Crest Tree Company

Valley Crest Tree Company is the largest producer of containerized specimen trees in the Western United States. With more than 800 acres of state-of-the-art growing grounds in production in northern and southern California, the Nursery Division's standing inventory of 15-gallon through 72-inch boxes includes a broad cross-section of trees. The Specimen Division inventories an array of mature, individual specimens and offers expert tree relocation, storage and preservation services worldwide. The Garden Art International Division supplies a wide selection of custom and imported containers, fountains and garden accessories, and indoor foliage.

As a member of the Calabasas, California-based ValleyCrest Companies family, Valley Crest Tree Company is backed by the experience and resources of the nation's largest full-service landscape services provider, with over 7,500 employees and annual pro forma revenue in excess of \$600 million. Valley Crest Tree Company's sister companies include ValleyCrest Landscape Development, ValleyCrest Landscape Maintenance and ValleyCrest Golf Course Maintenance.

For more information on ValleyCrest Companies, go to: www.valleycrest.com

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