



The Toro Company

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For Immediate Release

Advancements in Irrigation Systems Key to Water Conservation

Industry consultant addresses how to improve water efficiencies in irrigation systems during Toro's Success Without Excess III

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (August 5, 2008) – Improving water efficiency through advancements in technology and design of irrigation systems was a topic discussed during The Toro Company's *Success Without Excess III* WaterSmart Symposium (available online at www.torowatersmart.com). Brian Vinchesi, president of Irrigation Consulting, Inc. and chairman of the Irrigation Association's Smart Water Application Technology Committee, addressed the topic for both landscape professionals and golf course superintendents during the symposium.

"Water conservation is an extremely timely topic," said Vinchesi. "The industry is under a lot of scrutiny right now as we work to identify more ways to reduce water use and implement new technologies. The Toro WaterSmart Symposium leads the way in promoting proper water management."

On Tuesday, July 29, Vinchesi presented Smart Water Application Technologies, or SWAT, to landscape professionals. SWAT is a coalition of water purveyors, equipment manufacturers and irrigation practitioners. The mission of SWAT is to promote landscape water use efficiency through the application of state-of-the-art irrigation technologies. In this presentation, Vinchesi reviewed the results of SWAT tests on several climate-based controllers and protocol development for soil moisture sensors, soil moisture-based controllers and rain sensors.

"SWAT protocols are anticipated to be the basis for the EPA's Water Sense outdoor irrigation product labeling specifications," said Vinchesi. "The climate-based controllers are hopefully going to be the first irrigation product to carry the Water Sense label."

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On Wednesday, July 30, Vinchesi addressed a group of golf course superintendents to discuss how properly designed irrigation systems can reduce water usage on golf courses. “Spacing of the sprinklers dramatically affects the irrigation coverage and uniformity,” said Vinchesi. “Believe it or not, the more sprinklers there are in the system, the less water will be used.”

During his presentation, Vinchesi discussed how the number of sprinklers, the spacing of the sprinklers, the operating pressure of the system, and the nozzles used all influence the uniformity of the irrigation system. According to Vinchesi, the proper combination can provide for even watering. The wrong set up will waste water by creating wet and dry spots.

“Water efficiency is a combination of proper design, installation upgrades, and well-maintained components and good management,” said Vinchesi. “New technologies and alternative water sources should always be investigated. In order to have efficient irrigation systems, they need to be regularly serviced and updated.”

For more information on Brian Vinchesi’s presentations, as well as the other presentations from the Toro WaterSmart Symposium, please go to www.torowatersmart.com.

Toro is committed to helping customers manage water in the most efficient way possible to protect one of the world’s most precious resources. That’s why the company has placed tremendous value in working with customers and researchers to discover new ways to use water more efficiently and responsibly. Water availability is an important issue that impacts everyone, and Toro will proudly do its part to help customers conserve water resources by providing irrigation technologies that eliminate excess water use.

About The Toro Company

The Toro Company (NYSE: TTC) is a leading worldwide provider of turf and landscape maintenance equipment, and precision irrigation systems. With sales of nearly \$1.9 billion in 2007, Toro’s global presence extends to more than 140 countries through its reputation of world-class service, innovation and turf expertise. Since 1914, the company has built a tradition of excellence around a number of strong brands to help customers care for golf courses, sports fields, public green spaces, commercial and residential properties, and agricultural fields. More information is available at www.toro.com.

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