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A. Duie Pyle, Dayton Freight and Southeastern Freight awarded The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company's "Business Partner Excellence Award"

WEST CHESTER, PA, December 12, 2011 - A. Duie Pyle, a leading Northeast transportation and logistics provider, Dayton Freight Lines, an industry leading carrier in the Midwest, and Southeastern Freight Lines, a premier carrier in the Southeast, were the recipients of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company's "2011 Business Partner Excellence Award" in each of their respective regions. The award distinguishes superior carrier performance in the LTL category and was presented at The Scotts Annual Logistics Conference in West Palm Beach, FL.

"Our team is honored to be a partner with Scotts and we are grateful for the recognition of our efforts," said Peter Latta, owner and chairman of A. Duie Pyle. "And the recognition of our partner carriers by Scotts as well is a great testament to the strength of the companies that make up our partnership."

This is not the first time this year that the regional carrier partners have all been recognized for excellence. In August, Logistics Management Magazine presented their "Quest for Quality" Award to each of the carriers in their respective regions. The award is voted on by readers of Logistics Management magazine and is regarded as one of the most reliable measures of customer satisfaction and performance excellence. The five criteria used in ranking include on-time performance, value, information technology, customer service, and equipment and operations.

"Scotts' recent recognition of the partners is an honor in itself, but this award combined with the Quest for Quality award that all three carriers earned as well is particularly meaningful because it validates the strength of our partner network," stated Mike Heaton, senior vice president of sales and marketing at Southeastern.

As part of Scotts' ceremony, A. Duie Pyle was also honored with the "Business Partner Excellence Award" for top-ranked distribution performance at Pyle's Westfield, MA warehouse facility, which serves as Scotts' New England distribution center.

"The superior service that Southeastern, Dayton and Pyle provide to Scotts is critical to our supply chain management," said Jim Iovino, vice president of global logistics for The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. "We rely heavily on our partners' expertise to support the goal of being our customers' best supplier."

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