

Bisset Nursery Corporation of Long Island, N.Y., reports it has acquired the **Design Imaging Group**, developer of landscape imaging software. DIG has developed site plan software for the pool and landscape industries, including three new programs. Bisset, the largest re-wholesaler in the Northeast, was one of DIG's first customers. Bisset says it brings a successful customer service record to the table, which will fit together nicely with DIG's qualified technical staff and sales representatives. The program's inventor, Garry Galpin, remains with the team.

Data Transmission Network Corporation (DTN), an infor-

mation and communication services company, has acquired all the subscribers of Golf Link. The former Golf Link subscribers have been assimilated into DTN Weather Center which helps turf-related industries plan their work activity by providing them detailed weather information in a timely fashion. Golf Link had more than 450 subscribers to its information system. DTN is headquartered in Omaha.

Century Rain Aid, one of the country's largest distributors of landscape irrigation equipment, has reached an agreement with **Shemin Nurseries, Inc.**, in which Century will establish product outlets in eight

of Shemin's 14 distribution centers. Shemin hq is in Danbury, Ct. The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Weyerhaeuser Co. Century President Wayne Miller says the agreement gives Century's customers added convenience, and Century benefits from Shemin's customer traffic.

Encore Manufacturing Co., Beatrice, Neb., was awarded an Outstanding Nebraska Industry Award. The award is presented by The Nebraska Diplomats, an organization of business people from throughout the state who help recruit new and expanding business for the state. Encore was picked for its "continual

growth and contributions to economic development."

Lofts Seed, Inc., has moved its corporate offices from Somerset, N.J. to Winson-Salem, N.C. According to company President, Ken Budd, the move gives the company easy access to banking, legal and accounting resources. "It also provides our customers with enhanced customer service, better product value and a more streamlined operation that will help grow their business," said Budd. Lofts' New Jersey research facilities and personnel remain in Somerset. Neil R. Myers has been named director of marketing for the seed supplier, which recently gave royalty checks for more than \$670,000 to Rutgers University and the University of Rhode Island research programs.

The Toro Company's two-year or 1500 hours warranty on its entire commercial product line is an industry first, says Toro. Mike Goodwin, manager of Worldwide Service for Toro, says the warranty includes equipment purchased in 1996. The "two-year" warranty will apply to those products not equipped with hour meters. Toro also reports it has completed its buy of the **James Hardie Irrigation Group** for \$119 million. **Maruyama** and Toro will jointly produce and market hand-held commercial equipment to landscape contractors. Toro CEO Kendrick Melrose called the move, "a significant boost to the company's growing landscape contractor business." **LM**

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