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Products group of Aventis Environmental Science, was granted a state label for turf use by the California Department of Pesticide Regulations.

ServiceMaster Q2 income drops 23%

DOWNERS GROVE, IL — ServiceMaster announced a 23% drop in its second quarter (Q2) net income and reduced its earnings outlook for 2001. Q2 2001 earnings per share (EPS) were \$.17 on net income of \$51 million compared to Q2 2000 EPS of \$.21 on net income of \$66 million. "In TruGreen, slower growth in the residential lawn care business and unprofitable contracts in the landscaping construction business continue to put pressure on results," said Jon Ward, president and CEO.

Eco Soil to reorganize

SAN DIEGO, CA — Eco Soil Systems Inc. will reorganize its core business, including actively seeking to sell non-core assets in an effort to pay down debt and improve the company's working capital position. The company has also substantially reduced headcount and implemented salary cuts for senior level management, among other efforts to reduce expenses.

Century Rain Aid opens new offices

MADISON HEIGHTS, MI — Century Rain Aid opened five new branch locations: Springdale, AR; Phoenix and Surprise, AZ; Riverhead, NY; and Warrendale, PA.

[CLIPPINGS]

5 ways to use H2B to your advantage

1. Count to 120 backwards. No, it isn't a sobriety test. Count back 120 days from when you want your work permits to begin and be sure your petition is filed on that date to ensure the earliest chance of getting your approval on time. Unfortunately, the law doesn't allow a petitioner to file more than 120 days out regardless of what the various governmental delays may be in processing.

2. Hurry up and slow down. Be prepared for the process to be slow. You may not have approval as early as you would like. Respond quickly to any requests your agent, attorney or, if doing it yourself, governmental agency may have to complete your petition.

3. Proof of existence. Be ready to provide documentation to substantiate your

seasonal need with financials and payroll records. The national office for the U.S. Department of Labor is taking strides to ensure all regional offices are interpreting petitions the same. Be ready to provide substantial documentation to substantiate your seasonality/seasonal need.

4. Next in line please. Screen your recruits carefully for deportation history. Many times you can only go by their word. Have a list of backup recruits in case your first choices do not pan out.

5. Be kind and unwind. Be patient with your agent/attorney processing on your behalf. The program still works, but delays will still occur.

— Terry Foley, Foley Enterprises,
Austin, TX. He can be reached
at 800/623-7285.

Info Center

VIDEOS AND LITERATURE FOR THE GREEN INDUSTRY

Got turf problems?...Then get the new pocket guide, "Turfgrass Problems: Picture Clues and Management Options," from the Natural Resource, Agriculture and Engineering Service (NRAES). The guide is 214 pages and costs \$24.95 plus shipping and handling/sales tax. Order the book from the NRAES, Cooperative Extension, 152 Riley-Robb Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-5701.

Spindle assemblies...for walk-behind and riding mowers abound in Stens' new 2001 catalog. The selection includes replacement spindles for AYP,

Murray and others. Stens also carries MTD 6 point star center hole blades. For more information on spindles and other Stens parts call 800/457-7444.

Training tractor loader backhoe operators...is now easy with VISTA Training's complete instructor kit for training tractor loader backhoe operators. The new "tool kit" contains two videos, an easy-to-follow instructor's packet, and a CD-ROM. For more information call 800/942-2886 or visit www.vista-start-smart.com.