



Press Release

Source: Interstate Transport

Interstate Transport Partners with Retail Plant Services to provide One Stop Retailing Solution with “FASTtrack”

The One of a Kind Live Goods Program Provides a Turn-Key Transportation and Merchandising Solution For Growers and Retailers

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Saint Petersburg, FL: Interstate Transport, Inc., the leading freight management and logistics company in the horticultural industry, and Retail Plant Services (RPS), the leading garden center merchandising company, today announced “FASTtrack”, a tailored live goods solution providing both transportation and merchandising services to U.S. growers. The program provides “just in time” (JIT) delivery to retail locations in the United States and priority merchandising solutions from RPS.

The program is closely linked to the highly successful “routing and optimization” services already provided by Interstate to numerous nationwide growers and shippers. Interstate’s deliveries are fed to RPS where their highly skilled team is able to quickly meet the trucks and merchandise the product to maintain the quality of salability of the product. Interstate provides RPS with real time tracking of growers’ plant material deliveries, allowing RPS staff to coordinate with the truck and quickly merchandise the product for the grower – thus maintaining the highest quality product for fast and efficient sale to the end user.

Tim Higham, President and CEO of Interstate Transport, said; “Growers and retailers will see huge gains in productivity, sales and markdown savings through this partnership. With perishable products, such as plant material, any disconnect between the delivery driver and merchandiser can be devastating. This program will keep the truck driver and merchandiser in perfect sync”.

Cary Ballas, a principal at RPS, stated; “The salability of plant material is determined by how good it looks to the customer. That means it must arrive in good condition and be made ready for sale quickly. Growers will see much larger sell through rates and lower mark downs when transportation works in sync with merchandising – thus providing better looking material for sale to the end user”. It is through an organized and well-managed process that all stakeholders can be successful.”

Growers and retailers can discover more about the Interstate / RPS “FASTtrack” program by calling Jon Dunn on (toll free) 866-281-1281 x 1330.

ABOUT INTERSTATE TRANSPORT: Interstate is one of the fastest growing third party logistics providers in the United States. Based in Saint Petersburg, FL, Interstate provides logistics services and complete logistics outsourcing solutions to customers across the

United States. Interstate's Freight Management Centers provide Internet load tracking for every shipment, free transportation management (TMS) software, free routing and load optimization, free internet load tracking, guaranteed appointment making, and complete efficiency reporting. Every aspect of Interstate's offerings can be managed via the Internet or telephone. Learn more at www.interstate-transport.com

ABOUT RETAIL PLANT SERVICES: Retail Plant Services (RPS) is a subsidiary Highpoint Southwest Services L.P. and has offices in Addison, Texas and Atlanta, Georgia. The organization specializes in all aspects of in-store services, live goods merchandising, capital projects, new store set-ups, and resets. RPS has the ability to leverage the companies' large infrastructure and commitment to experienced, well-organized field management. Through disciplined processes and procedures, RPS offers growers a dependable, efficient source to outsource all aspects of in-store merchandising. Visit the website at <http://www.hpsw.net>