Professional tree climbers from Germany and Canada win world championships

CHAMPAIGN, Ill (August, 2018) – James Kilpatrick of Hamburg, Germany and Krista Strating of Hamilton, Ontario, have earned the Men's and Women's International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) titles for 2018.

More than 70 male and female arborists and tree climbers from 21 countries competed at this year's event, August 3-5, in Columbus, Ohio.

Kilpatrick and Strating bested other climbers in five preliminary events, each of which simulated work-related tasks when pruning and caring for trees. They were among the male and female competitors who scored the highest in the preliminary events to earn a spot in the Masters' Challenge championship round and battle for the title of world champion.

ITCC competitors are some of the best in the industry who earn the opportunity to compete by winning local and regional competitions held by ISA chapters and associate organizations around the world. Kilpatrick won the Men's ITCC in 2016 and 2017. Strating's prior titles include the 2014 and 2017 Women's North American Tree Climbing Champion.

The 42nd annual ITCC, organized by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and supported by presenting sponsor The Davey Tree Expert Company, showcased these industrial athletes to educate the public about professional tree work, and the training and expertise it requires to be done safely.

About ISA
The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., U.S., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the consumer education web site, www.treesaregood.org, which fulfills the association's mission to help educate the public about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA's dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit www.isa-arbor.com.

About Davey Tree
With more than 9,000 employees throughout North America, The Davey Tree Expert Company provides solutions for residential, utility, commercial and government clients. Rooted in research, the company's vision is to achieve balance among people, progress and the environment. Tree experts since 1880, Davey provides diversified tree services, grounds maintenance and environmental services. Davey is one of the largest employee-owned companies in the U.S. and is headquartered in Kent, Ohio.