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### **For Immediate Release**

### **PLANET ANNOUNCES NEWLY CERTIFIED EXTERIOR LANDSCAPE TECHNICIAN**

**HERNDON, Va., February 7, 2007** — The Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) announced today that **Michael Morrison, CLT and Jorge Cruz, CLT**, who are employed by the **Russo Lawn and Landscape, Inc.** in Windsor Locks, CT, passed the Certified Landscape Technician (Exterior) exam. The test was offered through the partnership of Connecticut Groundskeepers Association (CGKA).

This daylong, “hands-on” test challenges the candidates to use mental and physical ability under time constraints. Candidates must pass all the Common Core problems as well as the challenges in a selected specialty area such as Installation, Maintenance, or Irrigation. Michael Morrison and Jorge Cruz completed the Maintenance module.

PLANET’s certification program promotes the growth and credibility of the interior and exterior landscape industry. It provides professional recognition to individuals engaged in the business of landscape contracting. The objectives of the program are to:

- raise the standards of the profession;
- encourage self-assessment by offering guidelines for achievement;
- identify persons with acceptable knowledge of principles and practices of the profession;
- award recognition to those who have demonstrated a high level of competence in the profession; and
- improve performance with the profession by requiring participation in a continuing program of professional development.

PLANET represents professional interior and exterior landscape maintenance, installation, and design/build contracting firms, lawn care firms and industry suppliers on a national basis. For more information on PLANET’s certification programs, please contact Marcia Higgins, Certification Administration Manager at (800) 395-2522

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