



## *Press Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For more information contact:  
Stephanie Zercher at 404.300.1908  
stephanie\_zercher@us.crawco.com**

### **Crawford Contractor Connection Adds National Tree Removal Service**

**ATLANTA (July 17, 2009)** - Horticultural Asset Management Inc. (HMI), which offers nationwide tree inspection and valuation, has joined Crawford Contractor Connection's managed repair services network as its first tree services provider, Crawford & Company (NYSE: CRDA, CRDB) announced today. Contractor Connection matches insurers, policyholders and consumers with contractors they can count on for onsite residential and light commercial property repair.

"The opportunity to partner with HMI will enhance the full range of services we offer to our clients and particularly will provide them with a much-needed national solution," said Crawford Senior Vice President Larry Thomas, who oversees Contractor Connection. "HMI arborists and tree care professionals provide Contractor Connection and our insurance partners with rapid response times, quality service and reassurance that professional assistance will be available during a difficult situation for a homeowner."

When a large tree or limb damages a home, it is critically important to use accredited tree care experts to remove a tree so that no further damage or personal injury occurs, Thomas explained. "HMI has the only national network of professional tree care companies that are capable of emergency response to handle tree-related losses and damage," said Doug Malawsky, chief operating officer of HMI. "We are very pleased to have the opportunity to make the expert services of our network available to Crawford Contractor Connection."

HMI's network is capable of providing a full range of support to deal with tree claims, including tree removal and crane services, cabling and bracing, lightning protection, pruning and other related services. In addition, using its own patent-pending valuation software, HMI's field network can provide Contractor

**MORE**

## **Page 2 . . . Crawford Contractor Connection adds national tree removal service**

Connection clients with the replacement cost of any trees that are lost. These replacement costs may be used by the client for insurance, legal or other applications.

### **About Crawford**

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, Crawford & Company ([www.crawfordandcompany.com](http://www.crawfordandcompany.com)) is the world's largest independent provider of claims management and related solutions to the risk management and insurance industry as well as self-insured entities, with a global network of more than 700 locations in 63 countries. Major service lines include property and casualty claims management; warranty inspections; integrated claims and medical management for workers' compensation; legal settlement administration, including class action and bankruptcy claims administration; and risk management information services. The Company's shares are traded on the NYSE under the symbols CRDA and CRDB.

### **About HMI**

HMI manages the largest national network of tree care companies and arborists in the US. HMI is able to provide emergency tree removals in the 48 lower states as well as wildfire recovery services pertaining to trees and landscape materials. Furthermore, HMI is the only source for standardized replacement cost data and objective inspections of the condition of trees and shrubs (trees) on residential and commercial properties. HMI's replacement cost data is a definitive source of information for tree appraisals as well. For more information, please visit the Web site at [www.HMIadvantage.com](http://www.HMIadvantage.com) or call (866) 937-6468.

###