



## The Toro Company

5825 Jasmine Street, Riverside, California 92504-1183  
Main: 951-688-9221

### Contact Information:

Vana Ankeny  
Marketing Communications Manager  
951-785-3742  
vana.ankeney@toro.com

### For Immediate Release

#### **Toro Introduces Sentinel Water Management System Version 3.1 With Flow Optimization**

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (Nov. 2, 2008) – The Toro® Sentinel® Central Control System is recognized as the premier system for controlling multiple irrigation sites, and Sentinel® WMS Version 3.1 offers users an expanded range of functions and features for the most reliable and user-friendly operation. With its new Flow Optimization feature, the system software “optimizes” program operation to maintain peak demand efficiency and shorten water windows.

Living up to its name, the Sentinel Central Control System “stands guard” over multiple irrigation systems, reliably programming, monitoring and controlling the operation of up to 999 field satellites. With the Sentinel system’s innovative Distributed Intelligence, all irrigation program data is stored at both the central computer and in field satellites. Using true two-way communication, programming changes made in the field are uploaded to the computer so all information is current and accurate. A loss in communication does not translate to a loss of irrigation since each satellite retains its programming and operates as scheduled.

Sentinel WMS Version 3.1 is simple to set up and operate, and accommodates expansions of irrigation systems under its control. It can operate over several diverse communication protocols, including Ethernet/Internet and cellular-enabled data modems, and its satellite modularity (from 12 to 48 stations) lets the user expand Sentinel-controlled irrigation areas without having to purchase a new satellite.

“Along with its simplicity and flexibility, Sentinel WMS Version 3.1 delivers exceptional performance that will minimize operating costs, conserve precious water, enhance staff productivity and maintain beautiful landscapes,” said Brian Ries, marketing manager for Toro Residential/Commercial Irrigation. “We integrated advances in software and communications technology so Version 3.1 provides irrigation professionals with the most reliable control resource they’ve ever used.”

The Sentinel system is a “smart” irrigation system that uses flow monitoring and has the ability to connect to multiple weather stations for ET-based auto-adjust of station run times. The system reads, displays and reacts to under- and over-flow situations and tracks water usage. The ET-based management system can provide water savings of 25% to 30% per year.

The new “Hydro Report” feature provides detailed reporting about water use, ET and rainfall. These reports can include data graphs providing historical comparisons to the previous month or past year to help users analyze usage trends and make adjustments to optimize system efficiency. Hydro Reports can be scheduled as a regular element of the system’s “Watcher Operations.”

Built-in safeguards detect irrigation system malfunctions and prevent water loss and potential damage to landscapes. The Sentinel system automatically detects disruptions, such as pipeline breaks, malfunctioning valves and missing heads, and shuts down affected stations to prevent excessive water loss.

With the Sentinel system’s Microsoft® Windows-based software, daily operations and scheduling are handled quickly and easily. Communication among the computer and satellites is flexible, and can be set up to suit the user’s preferences. Options such as radio, telephone, cellular and Ethernet are all available – alone or in combinations – for system communications.

Version 3.1 is just part of recent Sentinel innovations which include compatibility with Toro’s TDC Two-Wire Decoder system, providing unmatched flexibility and expandability, and controller wireless output boards with wireless communications that enable valve power circuits to be located remotely from the controller programming module.

Sentinel WMS Version 3.1 also has international languages, including Chinese, and it is being used at the Olympic Forestry Park in Beijing. It is also in use at sites such as the Palace of Versailles (France); the Adelaide (Australia) Zoo; the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA; Disney’s Wide World of Sports in Orlando, FL; and the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Grapevine, TX.

Toro stands behind the Sentinel system by providing two years of Toro NSN® Support – unlimited, 24-hour, toll-free access to irrigation experts worldwide, with 24/7/365 emergency paging.

For more information, contact your local authorized Toro Irrigation distributor, call 877-345-8676, or visit [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com).

## **About The Toro Company**

The Toro Company (NYSE: TTC) is a leading worldwide provider of turf and landscape maintenance equipment, and precision irrigation systems. With sales of nearly \$1.9 billion in 2007, Toro's global presence extends to more than 140 countries through its reputation of world-class service, innovation and turf expertise. Since 1914, the company has built a tradition of excellence around a number of strong brands to help customers care for golf courses, sports fields, public green spaces, commercial and residential properties, and agricultural fields. More information is available at [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com).

###