

CGA, Department of Transportation and John Deere Rang The Closing Bell® at the New York Stock Exchange

Groups promoting 811, Know What's Below, Call Before You Dig.

Safe digging can save lives. The Common Ground Alliance, Department of Transportation and John Deere (Deere & Company – NYSE:DE) teamed up to increase national awareness about 811, the national “Call Before You Dig” telephone number, during The Closing Bell® at 4 p.m. EDT Friday, August 20.

“Safety is great for business, and a commitment to it makes for great businesses,” said Bob Kipp, President of the Common Ground Alliance. “There is no better place to communicate this critical message than the New York Stock Exchange, home to many of the world’s leading companies. We are privileged to come to the New York Stock Exchange to promote 811. More than 60 of our member companies are listed on the New York Stock Exchange.”

With 35 years of experience in the construction industry, Vic Weston, Chair of the Common Ground Alliance’s Board, knows firsthand the importance of calling 811 and stresses its use

now more than ever. “I’ve never seen so many people in the construction industry and elsewhere under so much financial strain,” said Weston. “At times like these, there is a greater risk that people will cut corners when it comes to safety. They must always be reminded, however, that safety is not an inconvenience or a cost – it improves productivity, saves money, and protects lives. Calling 811 makes great business sense.”

“John Deere is grateful for the work of CGA and its members in protecting those who are closely connected to and work on the land,” said Mike Mack, the President of John Deere’s Worldwide Construction & Forestry Division. “Over our history, John Deere has been committed to protecting the customers we serve, including professional excavators, farmers, loggers, landscapers, homeowners, and all others who may be at risk to underground damage. One of the most effective ways we can help them stay safe is by making sure they know to call 811 before they dig.”

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Everyone present wore an 811 pin and hat created for the event.

