

News Release

Release Date: October 6, 2009

Cascade Designs, Inc. Donates Equipment to Global Disaster Relief Efforts

SEATTLE, U.S.A. – Cascade Designs, the Seattle-based industry leader in the design and manufacture of premier outdoor equipment, has donated over 2000 Therm-a-Rest[®] sleeping mattresses and 6000 Platypus[®] water reservoirs to Operation USA in support of their emergency aid to people affected by recent natural disasters in the Philippines, Indonesia and Samoa.

The variety of Therm-a-Rest sleeping mattresses will provide insulation and warmth to people housed in emergency shelters, while the BPA-free, 1.8L Platypus bottles will ease the distribution of clean water to those that are in need. ABF Freight System, Inc., a Cascade Designs shipping partner, donated the cost of delivery to Operation USA's Southern California warehouse.

"We have many employees with family in the Philippines that are displaced from their homes due to the flooding, so this is very personal for us," said Joe Mc Swiney, President of Cascade Designs. "We're grateful to Operation USA for their knowledge and ability to get the supplies we've donated to the places that need it as quickly as possible."

Updates to conditions and relief efforts in the areas affected can be found on the Operation USA website at www.opusa.org. Donations are accepted, and can be designated to a specific relief effort.

About Cascade Designs, Inc.

For over thirty-five years, Seattle-based Cascade Designs, Inc., has led the outdoor industry in designing innovative, useful and long-lasting equipment, manufacturing the majority of products in their Seattle, U.S.A. and Cork, Ireland facilities. From the original self-inflating Therm-a-Rest[®] camping mattress to the first multi-fuel stove, Cascade Designs has developed products that explorers, adventurers, outdoor enthusiasts and weekend campers can rely on to deliver optimum performance in the outdoors through exceptional engineering and quality.

Cascade Designs's premium outdoor brands include: Therm-a-Rest[®], the global leader in premium outdoor comfort; MSR[®], the ultimate in high performance outdoor gear; Platypus[®], specialist in modular hydration solutions for optimum performance; SealLine[®], the outdoor leader in all-purpose, portable gear protection; and Tracks[®], lightweight walking staffs and trekking poles. Visit www.cascaledgedesigns.com or call 1-800-531-9531 for more information.

About Operation USA

Operation USA is an international relief agency that helps communities at home and abroad overcome the effects of disasters, disease and endemic poverty by providing privately-funded relief, reconstruction and development aid. Since 1979, the Los Angeles-based Operation USA has worked in 99 countries, delivering over \$350 million for relief and development projects.

Operation USA has a long history of work in Indonesia, and continues today to work on long-term projects as a result of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. Operation USA's extensive experience in Asia resulted in quickly mobilizing partners on the ground. Projects were funded in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand and India. Operation USA remains an active and dedicated part of the long-term recovery process, and numerous projects continue in a large number of these communities.

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