

Companies nationwide lend helping hand to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts

In the wake of a tragedy, the human spirit in America often emerges as people put aside their differences and work together to overcome adversity. Everyday problems become less important as people place a greater focus on helping those less fortunate.

As the Gulf Coast begins its recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina, this human spirit has been demonstrated all over the country as people spend time volunteering at shelters, donating supplies and money, and opening their homes to evacuees.

Industry

Among other efforts, oil and gas companies nationwide have joined in the hurricane relief efforts, donating millions of dollars to a variety of organizations. Several companies have locations in the areas affected by the storm and have worked hard to ensure all employees are safe.

BP donated \$1 million to the Red Cross and will also match the contributions of employees to the disaster relief effort. DuPont also donated \$1 million in cash to agencies supporting relief and recovery efforts. ExxonMobil Corp. contributed \$2 million to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Chevron Corp. made a commitment of \$5 million to support recovery efforts in the communities affected by the storm. Dow announced that it contributed \$3 million to the hurricane relief efforts. Shell Oil Co. and Motiva Enterprises LLC have dedicated \$2 million to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund and are matching employee donations up to another \$1 million.

Total S.A., Valero and Koch Industries LLC have all made a commitment of \$1 million to be donated to the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. Valero also undertook several efforts to support and temporarily house employees who have been displaced by the storm. Koch Industries donated \$250,000 to the Salvation Army for its programs in the affected states. The company will also match up to \$1 million in employee donations.

Industry associations

Industrial associations also lent a helping hand to the hurricane relief efforts. The Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)



Godwin Pumps loads pumps at its Bridgeport, N.J., facility to be sent to the Gulf Coast region to aid in clean up efforts.

donated \$100,000 to the American Red Cross to assist in relief efforts in the Gulf Coast communities affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Louisiana Chemical Association (LCA) members have donated money ranging from thousands of dollars to millions of dollars to the American Red Cross and the local United Ways. Additionally, some companies have offered equipment and supplies to aid in the relief efforts.

BIC Alliance members

The members of the BIC Alliance are no exception when discussing the spirit of people during tragedy. Members have donated money, food, supplies, shelter and equipment to the survivors of the storm.

Several companies have offered help by donating much-needed supplies to the shelters in various areas. Superior Energies provided a shower trailer for evacuees and has also supplied clothes, toys and donations throughout the area. AltairStrickland donated lunch tables to a shelter in Pasadena, Texas, and sent a 300-gallon tank of diesel and a welding machine to the employees in Mississippi. Glove Guard has donated products to Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) through a distributor.

Safety Council Louisiana Capital Area and Scaffoldtag offered shelter to evacuees and emergency crews. Additionally, both companies and their employees donated supplies to area shelters to aid in the relief process.

EMS, Repcon Inc. and PennWell gathered supplies to send to the affected areas through various relief drives. EMS sent supplies to assist its employees who live and work in Louisiana who were affected by the storm and to assist the people of Louisiana who now reside in area shelters. Repcon, along with other Corpus Christi, Texas, businesses, sent two trucks loaded with emergency essentials to the Gulf Coast. PennWell collected donations of nonperishable food items for Hurricane Katrina victims in an effort with a local news station.

Other companies have offered aid by providing monetary support to organizations and local shelters.

PI Integrated Systems is donating 10 percent of all new and upgrade sales of its FlexCAD family of software through the end of the year to the relief efforts.

Brock employees have collected more than \$50,000 so far, some of which was matched by Lowe's dollar-for-dollar Red Cross campaign. The company is also sending a "kids only" truck to Pascagoula, Miss., that will be loaded with supplies for children.

Companies like HMHTTC Response Inc., EMCO Technologies, Reactor Services International, Gardner Denver Water Jetting Systems, and Providence Engineering & Environmental Group LLC are matching all employee contributions to

any recognized charitable organization providing relief to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Specialty Maintenance Products



Standing outside Motorola's "Tent City" are, from left, Raj Iyer and Richard McDonald of Motorola; Janice Pellar, president of EMCO Technologies; and Pat Cuntz and Todd Bourgeois, vice presidents of EMCO.

and Industrial Hygiene Services Coating. have pledged monetary donations to aid the natural disaster victims. Intrepid Industries has donated money, food, clothing, furniture and school supplies, and has also matched all employee donations.

To assist in the recovery efforts, some BIC Alliance members have offered their services or have been contracted to assist in the rebuilding efforts.

Companies like Brock have been hiring numerous evacuees and are processing more every day. Contractors such as Shaw have been hired to assist in the clean up efforts around the Gulf Coast. Shaw recently held a job fair to find people to fill a wide range of positions to help with the numerous projects it has been contracted to do.

According to Daniel Shapiro, senior vice president for The Shaw Group, there is a running number of jobs available and the company has been hiring at a rapid pace. Shapiro said clients such as FEMA and the Army Corps of Engineers have filled task orders that can take anywhere from a few weeks to years to complete.

Godwin Pumps has been busy sending pumps, generators and other emergency management equipment to contractors, environmental cleanup facilities and large companies in the affected areas along the Gulf Coast.

When emergency crews in New Orleans realized the city would need to be drained, they made a call to Rain for Rent to provide pumps, pipe, filtration and tanks. Rain for Rent's Strategic Emergency Response Team began handling logistics and responding to the contractor's needs and has provided pumps and tanks to be used during the relief effort. Additionally, Rain for Rent has provided filtration and spillguard containment systems to store fuel and wastewater.

HMHTTC sent 100 personnel qualified to work in HazMat situations to New Orleans for general clean up. The company also sent some of its Coast Guard-trained senior safety staff to another region to perform work.



Tessa Glascock, right, of Walker, La., is being interviewed by Tressa Fuller, a recruiter from The Shaw Group at the recent job fair. Holt Fastring, P.E., of Chalmette, La., was also interviewed.

DH Tech has been working with restoration companies to dry out buildings such as schools, hotels and office buildings in the New Orleans area.

Oilind Safety has provided safety equipment, breathing air and safety supplies to rescue workers and clean-up contractors in Orleans and St. Tammany Parishes.

EMCO Technologies has been serving as the disaster relief command center for Motorola's efforts to restore communications in a large portion of the Gulf South area affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Employees at Emergency Response Training Inc. helped with the search and rescue effort in New Orleans. While in the city, the group searched the area for stranded residents and delivered more than 20 people and their pets to safety. The company was also assigned to security duties.

XServ Inc. has been contracted for its services at refineries and chemical plants along the Gulf Coast. The company brought its experiences in hurricane relief with capabili-



Repcon loads trucks with emergency essentials donated by various organizations.

ties including manpower, supplies and temporary living quarters.

Other BIC Alliance members who have assisted in the disaster relief efforts are Baker Tanks, Hertz Equipment Rental Corp. and Roco Rescue.

The BIC Alliance has donated money to various organizations and donated supplies to the shelters. Individually and as a team, employees at the BIC Alliance have donated money, toys, books and other items and volunteered at local shelters. In the aftermath of the storm, BIC Alliance is focusing its efforts on helping people displaced by the storm find jobs, helping service companies get their message out to companies rebuilding the devastated areas, and helping build capital among energy-related companies. For more information, please refer to page 25. □