

NEWS RELEASE

Company Donates Over \$100,000 To Canadian Red Cross

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Washington Marine Group of Companies (WMG) is proud to announce its donation of \$103,845 to the Canadian Red Cross' Southeast Asia Earthquake and Hurricane Katrina relief funds. The funds were raised as part of the company's annual United Way campaign, which this year, committed to match employee donations dollar for dollar with an equal corporate donation to the Canadian Red Cross.



During a cheque presentation earlier today, **Steve Frasher**, WMG Chief Executive Officer, told the Canadian Red Cross' **Susan Borthwick**, Regional Director, and **Ken Becotte**, Financial Development Manager, that he was both proud and humbled by WMG employees' willingness to contribute to such worthy causes. "The company and its employees rallied together to generate a substantial donation to the Canadian Red Cross."

In recognition of the humanitarian needs in the Southeastern part of the US, Southeast Asia and here in BC, WMG decided to coordinate the company's annual United Way campaign with a special corporate donation to aid victims of recent international natural disasters. "We will match every dollar our employees contribute to the United Way campaign with a like amount to the Canadian Red Cross, divided equally between the Hurricane Katrina and Southeast Asia relief funds," said Steve during the campaign kick-off.

With that announcement, came a flurry of pledges, and the campaign continued to gain momentum right up until the official closing last week. In the company's most successful campaign to date, \$103,845 was raised for both the Lower Mainland and Greater Victoria United Way chapters. In addition to that contribution, the Lower Mainland United Way received a corporate donation of \$10,000, while the Victoria United Way received \$8,000. Earlier this year, WMG also ran a campaign to raise funds for the Canadian Red Cross' Tsunami relief fund, which contributed \$60,298 in combined corporate, employee and federal government matched funds.

Steve said that one of WMG's main goals is to continue to be a leader in the community, as well as a good corporate citizen. "With these substantial contributions I think we are well on our way to showing by example."

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The Washington Marine Group of Companies are primarily involved in coastal and deepsea transportation, ship repair and shipbuilding. The group is composed of Manly Marine, Marine Petrobulk, McKay Creek Technologies, Norsk Pacific Steamship, Seaspan Coastal Intermodal, Seaspan International, Seaspan Ship Management, Seaspan Shipbrokers, Seaspan (Cyprus), Vancouver Drydock, Vancouver Shipyards and Victoria Shipyards. For further information about the Washington Marine Group please visit the website at www.washingtonmarinegroup.com.