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MMS Employees Leap into Action to Aid the Victims of Hurricane Katrina

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ST. LOUIS—September 1, 2005— In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, MMS-A Medical Supply Company of Earth City, is working overtime to get medical equipment and other supplies to affected hospitals in New Orleans and the surrounding area.

In preparation for the storm, warehouse employees at the MMS branch in Baton Rouge, Louisiana worked evenings and over the weekend to ensure hospitals in Louisiana had necessary supplies. Since the storm hit, the Louisiana warehouse, has been without power and telephone service. Generators and other equipment were sent from MMS headquarters on Monday morning to get the warehouse back up and running. The warehouse is now operational and is working with Earth City and the MMS branch in Houston to deliver supplies to hurricane-affected hospitals.

The MMS Louisiana warehouse has received several semi-trucks full of supplies from MMS headquarters and is sending out shipments. Efforts are also being made to ship these supplies to New Orleans area hospitals with critical items in a timely fashion. MMS is sending medical equipment, such as ventilators, blood pressure units, thermometers, as well as fresh linens, towels and water. In addition to medical supplies, the MMS purchasing department has been working

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diligently to acquire other much needed supplies such as batteries, flashlights, fans, trash bags walkie-talkies, bleach, toilet paper, canned fruit, bread, air conditioners and generators from manufacturers and other partners. MMS has also sent 14,000 Meals-Ready-to-Eat for the 1,200 plus people trapped at the flooded Charity Hospital in New Orleans. MMS sent ten cases of Pedisure and Pedialyte from the Houston warehouse to benefit the homeless infants residing in the Astrodome. MMS manufacturer partners have been supportive of the relief effort by waiving freight charges, drop-ship fees and filling orders as quickly as possible. MMS will be extending hours, as well as well as accepting and making deliveries over the weekend to expedite orders and get supplies to Hurricane affected hospitals as soon as possible.

Many of the hospitals outside of New Orleans are preparing to accept the patients and staff from evacuated hospitals and other affected facilities. MMS will also be coordinating with these hospitals to supply them with the items they need due to overcrowding. In addition, MMS is working with Amerinet, a Group Purchasing Organization (GPO) partner, in an effort to assist as many area hospitals as possible by supplying them with critical items.

MMS is coordinating with local, state and federal authorities, as well as the U.S. Coast Guard to ensure the safe delivery of the supplies. Joy Barnett, Director Administration and Support Services at Louisiana State University has also been instrumental in coordinating the relief effort by working with disaster control at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Personnel from MMS headquarters have been dispatched to aid in the disaster relief effort and work with the Louisiana Warehouse. Dan Rieman-Vice President, Ed Warren-Vice President of Branch

Operations, Gary Smith-Transportation Manager, and Mark Lampe-Director of Inventory Control have taken several trucks of supplies to Louisiana and are working to fill orders.

In the midst of this national disaster, MMS has come together to make the relief program its highest priority. In addition to the supplies the company is donating, the employees of MMS are raising funds for the American Red Cross and gathering personal care and other items for the MMS Louisiana employees and their families. Rich Hawkins, Vice President of Acute Care, who is heading up the MMS disaster relief effort, said, “MMS is doing everything within our power to give relief to the people of New Orleans. We are proud of the efforts our employees have put forth to make this relief support program possible.”

MMS will continue to support the relief effort in Louisiana and send supplies to the area hospitals as long as necessary.

About MMS

Founded in 1970, MMS, formerly Midwest Medical Supply, is one of the largest independent regional healthcare distributors with a national presence. The company serves all of the specialized and diverse needs of the medical community with divisions dedicated to nursing homes, hospitals, physician practices, government facilities, specialty products, home care, pharmaceuticals and industrial business. The company is headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri with distribution facilities in Phoenix, AZ; Hartford, CT; Plant City, FL; Tamuning, GU; Broadview, IL; Carmel, IN; Wichita, KS; Baton Rouge, LA; Houston, TX; Salt Lake City, UT; and Waukesha, WI. For more information visit: www.mmsmedical.com.