



1200 18th Street NW
Washington DC 20036
951.491.9827
www.aerobridge.org

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AERObridge Receives NAA Teamwork Award for Haitian Relief Efforts

For immediate release: Washington, DC 16 September 2010. AERObridge (formerly known as C.A.R.E., or Corporate Aviation Responding in Emergencies) was honored by the National Aeronautic Association and The Air Care Alliance in recognition of the group's efforts to provide transportation and logistics assistance in support of relief work during the aftermath of the devastating earthquake.

AERObridge's efforts provided airlift for more than 3,800 people including medical teams, search and rescue teams, evacuees as well as support, logistics and communications specialists. In addition 86 orphan children destined for adoptions in the U.S. were flown out of Haiti on chartered aircraft dispatched by AERObridge at the request of the U.S. Department of State. AERObridge also dispatched aircraft which carried over 1.4 million pounds of food, shelter, water, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, electrical generating equipment, water purification devices and fuel to remote areas of Haiti unreachable by ground transportation following the disaster.

During the ceremony, held in the Lyndon B. Johnson room in the United States Senate Building, Air Care Alliance Chairman Rol Murrow thanked NAA Teamwork Award honorees AERObridge, Bahamas Habitat and the NBAA for their effort and dedication, noting that "the volunteers who donated both their time and aircraft to the relief effort represent the very best of who we, as an aviation community, are."

AERObridge President Marianne Stevenson, who accepted the award on behalf of the literally hundreds of aircraft owners, pilots, and support crews that participated in AERObridge's Haitian relief operations, remarked that "this was an occasion when literally all of general aviation worked together as a common entity towards a common goal. We were able to match the incredibly diverse range of capabilities found within the aviation community to meet the needs of the relief efforts."

"We had large corporate aircraft providing rapid transit of everything from food and medicine to doctors, nurses and rescue teams into and out of two staging areas that could handle large aircraft; we had an entire 25-aircraft fleet of Pilatus PC-12s doing round robin flights from Santiago, Dominican Republic and Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport into and out of the seven smaller airports throughout the Haitian disaster zone, and we had Cessna 206s and Caravans literally landing on dirt roads to get absolutely critical, life saving supplies into the most remote areas imaginable. It was breathtaking to see the level of dedication and cooperation that everyone involved in the effort put into this operation."

AERObridge is currently taking the lessons learned during the Haitian Relief operations to further develop alliances within the entire aviation community and to create four logistics centers in the United States which will streamline the responses to future disasters.

For more information, contact AERObridge President Marianne Stevenson at 951-491-9827 or via email to mstevenson@erobridge.org.