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CUSTOMER CONNECTION

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JM EAGLE DONATES PIPE TO SAVE LIVES IN AFRICA

JM Eagle is improving the health and quality of life for over 125,000 people in seven underdeveloped countries in Africa by sending nearly 277 miles of PVC pipe that will deliver clean drinking water to their villages.

Shipping from its Adel, Ga., and Wharton, Texas, plants this month, the nearly \$2 million donation of a variety of 2.5- to 6-inch pipe is going to Kenya, Uganda, Mali, Malawi, Rwanda, Ghana and Tanzania as part of the company's philanthropic efforts in that continent.

"The drinking-water situation in Africa's underdeveloped countries is dire," says JM Eagle President and CEO Walter Wang. "Our goal is to reduce the rate of death and disease for the people, and also help them become more self-sustaining."

One in five people in developing countries does not have access to safe drinking water, and 2.2 million people die each year from water-borne illness, 90 percent of them children under the age of 5, according to world-charity organizations.

This shipment, in coordination with Millennium Villages and the Earth Institute, follows JM Eagle's nearly \$1 million donation of pipe made between 2007 and 2008, which brought much-needed clean water to more than 13,000 people in 63 villages in Senegal.

In parts of that country, women and children were spending their days gathering briny water for drinking and cooking and carrying it back to their villages on their heads for miles. Not only was the water causing sickness and death, the archaic and time-consuming method of transporting it prevented the people from getting an education or learning productive skills to support themselves.

Today, JM Eagle pipe is carrying clean water to the people and their livestock, as well as irrigating fields for crops that the villagers are selling to create their own small enterprises.

"It has been a life-changing experience for me to witness the conditions before the pipe came and then watch the people in the villages dance for joy at the site of water flowing through the tap," says Wang. "It is not only a gift for them, it is also a gift for all of us at JM Eagle to be part of this amazing effort to save and, ultimately, improve lives."



JM Eagle personnel attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony at one of the Senegalese villages in January 2009. To view photos, visit www.jmeagle.com/senegal/.