

# FacilityBlog from Today's Facility Manager: The First Facility Management Blog

📅 Thursday, January 10, 2008

## Anti-Fatigue Mats Sent to American Troops in Iraq

[Crown Mats and Matting](#) has donated Comfort-King Supreme anti-fatigue matting to American soldiers fighting in Iraq for their use aboard Sherpa cargo planes. The Sherpas are used to drop much needed supplies to troops all over Iraq, but are frequently the target of sniper attacks. As a result, crew members must stand during the entire flight—often more than eight hours per mission—to look out for snipers and avoid attack.

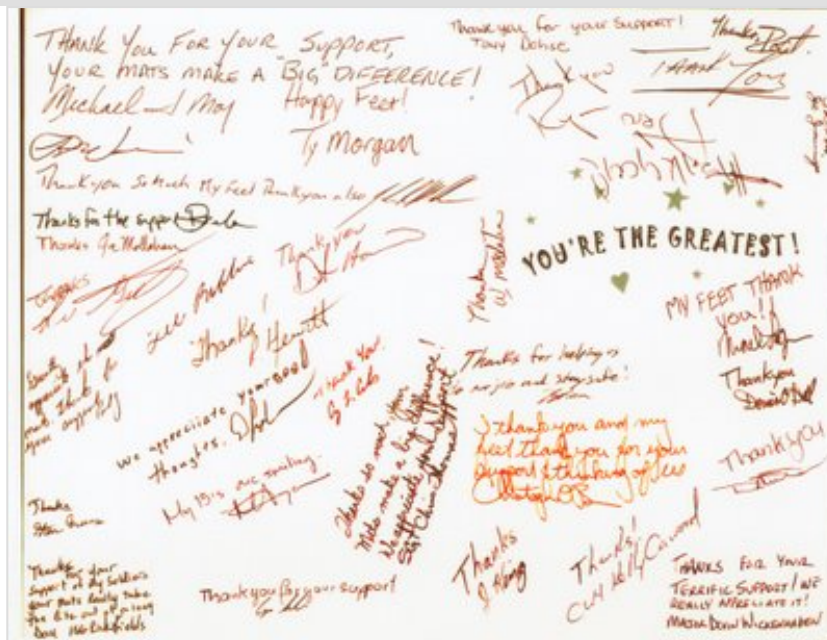
“We got a call from Michael Moy, a U.S. Army flight engineer in Iraq asking for our help,” says Christopher Tricozzi, vice president of sales & marketing at Crown. “He told us how he found out about the Comfort-King mats and why he needed them.”

According to Tricozzi, Moy said the mats were placed near the entrance to the Chaplain’s office at a U.S. Army base in Iraq. Walking on the mats, he realized they could help reduce leg fatigue since the troops often complain of back, leg, and foot problems during their long flight missions.

Tricozzi says the mats were sent to Iraq at no charge and he heard they were installed in the planes as soon as they arrived. However, nothing more was heard from Moy for several weeks.

“Then we were told they were sending an American flag flown over Iraq and Kuwait during ‘Operation Iraqi Freedom,’ to express their gratitude as well as a card of thanks signed by many of the Sherpa crew members,” says Tricozzi.

Although the flag was much appreciated, Tricozzi says it was the thank you card that was in many ways much more touching and revealing. “These are handwritten notes thanking us for the Comfort-King mats,” he says. “The comments included such things as, ‘my feet thank you;’ ‘thanks for thinking of us;’ and one soldier wrote, ‘my 13s are smiling; we love your Comfort-King mats.’”



Labels: [Crown Mats](#), [Iraq](#), [Safety](#)

posted by HeidiTFM at [10:48 AM](#) | [0 comments links to this post](#)  

## ABM Industries and Lighting Science Group Create Joint Partnership

[ABM Industries Incorporated](#) has announced a joint national program with [Lighting Science Group Corporation](#) that will result in "feasibility assessments" at Ampco System Parking operated facilities across the country. Ampco is one of the largest parking facility managers in North America, with 1,800 facilities comprising approximately 500,000 lights.

"We are proud of our ongoing commitment to improving energy efficiency at our facilities and believe the installation of LSG's LED lighting solutions will make a major contribution to overall energy savings," said Steven Zaccagnini, executive vice president of ABM Industries. "LED lights are proven to generate significant energy related cost reductions, as well as reduced maintenance expenses resulting from their extended lifespan. Unlike fluorescents, LEDs are mercury free and represent the types of environmentally friendly 'green' products ABM continues to source on behalf of our customers. Technological advancements like these will likely have a positive impact on our communities," he added.

"Advances in LED technology, coupled with declining costs and our innovations in fixture design continue to make LED lighting more economically and environmentally attractive," said Ron Lusk, chairman and chief executive officer of Lighting Science Group. "We are extremely pleased that ABM has selected LSG as its partner in this important effort and we welcome the opportunity to implement this program," he added.

Labels: [ABM](#), [Energy and Lighting](#), [LED](#), [Lighting Science Group](#), [Parking](#)

posted by HeidiTFM at [10:06 AM](#) | [0 comments links to this post](#)  

## EPA Focuses On Hazardous Pharmaceutical Waste

A new, free white paper titled “Managing Pharmaceutical Hazardous Waste in the Hospital,” is now available for [download](#).

In recent months, the federal U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state Departments of Environmental Protection (DEP) have begun inspecting and citing hospitals for improper disposal of pharmaceutical hazardous waste. Pharmaceuticals are sometimes overlooked as a source of hazardous waste in hospital pharmacies and patient care areas and may be improperly combined with biohazardous medical waste.




“The misclassification and improper disposal of pharmaceuticals can lead to the hospital being issued a significant citation or fine,” said Jack McCarthy, President and co-founder of [EH&E](#), a Newton, MA-based environmental engineering and consulting firm. “To avoid this, a comprehensive program must be in place and procedures adhered to by hospital personnel.”

The white paper outlines six essential components for developing an effective and compliant Hazardous Waste Drug Program, and provides insight into practical implementation strategies. The steps include:

1. Develop Working Group
2. Classify Formulary
3. Prepare Written Plan
4. Coordinate Implementation Logistics
5. Conduct Training
6. Monitor Process

This white paper will be applicable to those that work with and dispose of hazardous pharmaceuticals in hospitals, to environmental health & safety managers, and to compliance directors, medical staff, and pharmacy technicians.

Labels: [Energy and The Environment](#), [EPA](#), [Pharmaceutical Waste](#)

 posted by Jillian at [9:15 AM](#) | [0 comments](#) [links to this post](#)  

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**ModSpace Sponsoring Fundraising Bicycle Tour In Fall 2008**

[Modular Space Corporation \(ModSpace®\)](#) is partnering with the American Red Cross as the title sponsor of the "Tour du Rouge" bicycle tour fundraising event supporting American Red Cross Chapters along the Gulf Coast.

The American Red Cross and ModSpace will jointly present the Tour du Rouge event from October 18 to October 23, 2008. Over 300 riders are expected to participate in the bicycle tour which covers areas from Houston, TX to New Orleans, LA.

"ModSpace is proud to partner with the American Red Cross, a globally respected organization that helps people at times when they need it most," said Charles Paquin, president and CEO of ModSpace. "By sponsoring the Tour du Rouge, ModSpace demonstrates its support of the disaster relief mission of American Red Cross and in the rebuilding efforts in the Gulf Region."

ModSpace, based in Berwyn, PA, currently serves over 3,500 customers in the Gulf Region through branch locations in Houston, TX, Beaumont, TX, Lafayette, LA, and New Orleans, LA. In addition to the use of ModSpace mobile office and storage units during the event, the Beaumont, TX and Lafayette, LA ModSpace branch locations will serve as rest stops along the Tour du Rouge route.

In addition to the half a million dollar fundraising goal, the tour will provide awareness and education in areas such as coastal erosion, economic re-development, and hurricane preparedness to residents along the Gulf Coast.

"We are so pleased to have ModSpace as our Presenting Sponsor for the Tour du Rouge," said Davis Henderson, Chief Executive Officer of the [Greater Houston Area Chapter of the American Red Cross](#). "Sponsoring our inaugural ride shows the company's commitment to the Red Cross and the Gulf Coast communities, where they have several locations. They're also making a very personal commitment to the Tour du Rouge because many of their employees will be participating in the ride. We are privileged to have such an involved partner in this one-of-a-kind cycling event," concluded Henderson.

Both ModSpace and the American Red Cross have been instrumental in responding immediately to help people rebuild and recover when tragedy including hurricanes in the Gulf Region. The Red Cross provides emergency assistance when people are forced from their homes by fires, floods or other disasters. ModSpace assists in disaster relief efforts by providing temporary modular space for emergency personnel, medical assistance, and general office space or storage, construction site trailers during rebuilding efforts, and quick delivery of permanent modular building solutions.


When hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Region, ModSpace responded within days by deploying hundreds of modular buildings for emergency needs. ModSpace continues to support the growth and rebuilding efforts of the Gulf Region today.


Labels: [charity](#), [disaster recovery](#), [ModSpace](#)

■ posted by AnneTFM at [9:14 AM](#) | [0 comments](#) [links to this post](#)  



## About FacilityBlog/TFM

 FacilityBlog is where people discuss the demands faced by facility management professionals. Visitors are encouraged to comment; they can also LINK directly to anything of interest they find here. With daily updates, FacilityBlog is the most widely read Blog about facility management. FacilityBlog began in May 2005.

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

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