



## **ICO Global Communications and DBSD North America Deploy Mobile Satellite Services for Haitian Rebuilding Efforts**

### ***Collaborative Effort with International Telecommunications Union, Commonwealth Business Council and RYTHM Foundation Providing Satellite-Based Internet Connectivity for Relief Agencies***

RESTON, Va., Mar 08, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- ICO Global Communications (Holdings) Limited (ICO) (NASDAQ:ICOG) and its subsidiary, DBSD North America, Inc., announced that they have deployed satellite-based communications terminals with Internet access for use by relief agencies in Haiti.

The terminals, known as CFK-100s, operate in the 2GHz S-band, and can be used in both mobile and fixed environments. They were installed and activated on February 17 and are being provided as part of the relief efforts of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). Service is being provided through the G1 satellite, which was launched in April 2008.

The equipment and airtime are being provided free of charge under the terms of a 2007 Memorandum of Understanding between ICO, the ITU and the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC), which called for assistance, technology and airtime in response to natural disasters.

Laptop computers and peripheral equipment are being provided for the project through a financial grant from the Hong-Kong-based RYTHM Foundation, the Corporate Social Responsibility arm of the QI Group, a member organization of the CBC. In addition, technical services to support the initiative were donated by Space Systems/Loral, manufacturer of the G1 satellite; Intelsat, a leading provider of fixed satellite services worldwide; and Hughes Network Systems, a provider of two-way satellite communications technology for the G1 satellite.

"I am pleased to acknowledge the ICO donation of vehicle mounted satellite terminals for coordinating ongoing response activities in Haiti," said Dr. Hamadoun Touré, Secretary General of the ITU. "The equipment is providing on-the-move high-speed data communications which has proved critical for government humanitarian agencies that are still grappling with providing essential services to millions of victims of the recent earthquake. ITU looks forward to continued cooperation with ICO in future humanitarian and general ICT development initiatives."

"Communications satellites are uniquely capable of providing vital connectivity in circumstances where terrestrial networks either don't exist or are inadequate or impaired, as we are unfortunately seeing in Haiti," commented Benjamin G. Wolff, chairman and chief executive officer of ICO Global. "Providing critical mission support to relief agencies in Haiti is yet another powerful demonstration of the flexibility and capabilities of next-generation mobile satellites such as G1."

"The biggest challenge facing the international community is the social and economic empowerment of the people of Haiti," commented Dr. Mohan Kaul, director general of the CBC. "Satellite connectivity being provided by CBC members ICO Global and QI Group through RYTHM Foundation will aid and abet in laying the foundation for everlasting growth so that people can start living and planning month to month, year to year and put a stop to the current living of day to day."

#### **About ICO**

ICO Global Communications (Holdings) Limited is a next-generation satellite communications company. ICO's satellites are capable of supporting voice and data services to mobile, portable and fixed devices. ICO is based in Reston, Virginia and Bellevue, Washington. For more information, visit [www.ico.com](http://www.ico.com).

#### **About ITU**

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technology issues, and the global focal point for governments and the private sector in developing networks and services. For nearly 145 years, ITU has coordinated the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promoted international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, worked to improve telecommunication infrastructure in the developing world, established the worldwide standards that foster seamless interconnection of a vast range of communications systems and addressed the global challenges of our times, such as

mitigating climate change and strengthening cyber security. ITU is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

### **About CBC**

The Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) was formed in 1997 at the Edinburgh, Scotland, Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). Its aim is to utilise the global network of the Commonwealth more effectively for the promotion of global trade and investment for shared prosperity. The CBC acts as a bridge for cooperation between business and government, between developed and emerging markets and between large and small businesses.

### **About RYTHM Foundation**

Derived from the acronym **R**aise **Y**ourself To **H**elp **M**ankind, the RYTHM Foundation was created to emulate the fundamentals on which the QI Group has been built since 1998. RYTHM is the benchmark of all operations within the Group and the Foundation is representative of this spirit and puts into action the primary mission of the QI Group of Companies.

The mission of RYTHM Foundation is to build opportunities and care for those in need. It aims to create decent living conditions and to protect the environment to facilitate sustainability. It also strives to ensure our children - the symbol of our future - are safe and supported, now and tomorrow. RYTHM Foundation is the corporate heartbeat of the QI Group, keeping alive the employees' social conscience and serving as a constant reminder of the Company's core purpose.

Please visit [www.rythmfoundation.org](http://www.rythmfoundation.org) for more information on RYTHM Foundation. For further information on QI Group, please visit [www.qigroup.com](http://www.qigroup.com).

SOURCE: ICO Global Communications (Holdings) Limited

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