

German trading company donates 125 tons of aid METRO Group helps Haiti: first cargo flight with relief goods for the earthquake victims takes off

Düsseldorf, February 22, 2010. Today, METRO Group and its sales divisions Metro Cash & Carry, Real, Media Markt / Saturn as well as Galeria Kaufhof launched one of the largest relief campaigns in the company's history. At Düsseldorf airport, Dr. Eckhard Cordes, CEO of METRO Group, saw off the first cargo flight transporting relief goods to help the earthquake victims in Haiti. The second cargo flight is planned for early March. The total value of the aid shipment weighing more than 125 tons: one million euro.

"The pictures of destruction and the suffering of the people in Haiti have deeply moved us", said Dr. Cordes. "As a company that takes its corporate social responsibility seriously, it was clear to us immediately that we would help the people in the disaster area. We want to effectively contribute to the reconstruction." Dr. Cordes praised the commitment and spontaneous readiness of the METRO Group employees to help. "We did not have to ask anyone to do something. Everyone volunteered to help."

For putting together the shipment, Germany's largest retailing company cooperated closely with the German hunger relief agency Welthungerhilfe. The non-profit organisation made a list of what the survivors of the disaster need most urgently. The Welthungerhilfe will take on the distribution of the relief goods on-site in Haiti; this way it is ensured that the help will directly reach those suffering from the earthquake.

All METRO Group sales divisions contributed to the compilation of aid supplies. Among other items, the wholesale stores of Metro Cash & Carry provided around 200 tents, 8,000 plastic tarpaulins, 4,000 hoes and tools as well as around 15,000 sets of cutlery. Real contributed personal hygiene items such as 36,000 bars of soap, 15,000 toothbrushes, disposable shavers and diapers – as well as 3,000 footballs for the traumatised children in Haiti, another 2,400 balls were supplied by Galeria Kaufhof. The department store chain in addition also donated 4,000 cooking pots, 3,000 blankets and school supplies such as school bags, writing pads and pens. Media Markt and Saturn contributed 8,000 torch lights and several satellite telephones. The real estate company METRO Group Asset Management supplied more than 20 diesel-operated emergency power generators.

METRO Group is one of the largest and most international retailing companies. In 2009 the Group reached sales of around €66 billion. The company has a headcount of some 300,000 employees and operates over 2,100 stores in 33 countries. The Group's performance is based on the strength of its sales divisions which operate independently in their respective market segment: Metro/Makro Cash & Carry – the international leader in self-service wholesale, Real hypermarkets, Media Markt and Saturn – European market leader in consumer electronics retailing, and Galeria Kaufhof department stores. More information at: www.metrogroup.de.