

DISASTER RELIEF

connecting lifelines in haiti



In a village far outside Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince, a community anxiously awaits the arrival of a truck that has navigated rough and mountainous terrain to find this particular location. The people in this town know that the truck's contents are a vital link to their health and survival. The truck – guided there by

technology they may never come to know – carries fresh drinking water that will replenish tanks used to distribute the water to the village. The technology was designed by AT&T.

The 2010 earthquake in Haiti affected an estimated 3 million people, causing devastating loss of life and significant damage to buildings and infrastructure, and cutting off remote communities from communications and resources essential for life. Difficult situations like this require collaboration between participants who can imagine, inspire and deliver solutions – under extremely challenging and difficult circumstances.

Cathy Martine, executive vice president of AT&T Small Business Solutions, discusses our efforts to work with an innovative business making a difference in Haiti.

In July, AT&T announced a \$100,000 contribution to the National Organization for the Advancement of Haitians (NOAH) for a project on which you're working with Water Transit Solutions. Can you tell us a little more about how it will be used?

Our contribution funds a project supplying an innovative technology solution that **delivers clean drinking water and ice to remote locations across Haiti**. NOAH is leading the project, and we're working with one of our small business customers, Water Transit Solutions, to provide the technology.

The situation in Haiti really challenged us – as it did many – to figure out where we could have the most impact to help address the seemingly impossible circumstance of the local communities. We saw this as one way we can help – by enabling innovative companies to make a difference through our technologies and human resources.



Can you tell us a little more about NOAH and your innovative collaborator – Water Transit Solutions (WTS)?

We truly were just part of this larger project with great organizations **NOAH** and **WTS**. NOAH is a U.S. based non-profit organization dedicated to providing medical and humanitarian relief to Haitians after natural disasters. Water Transit Solutions is an Atlanta-based company driven by the commitment to help ensure that people have access to clean water. WTS uses an innovative tracking system technology, jointly developed with AT&T, to manage the supply of clean water and ice during disasters or wherever they're needed. The company has also adapted their processes to reduce the number of jugs and bottles used in their assistance efforts.

So how does this technology work?

In Haiti, the technology is web-driven and uses both global positioning system (GPS) and general packet radio system (GPRS) to track and manage water inventories, equipment locations, equipment movement and water quality in real time. To get the system up and running, we worked with WTS to install **asset visibility technology** in Haiti. Asset visibility technology allows people to “see,” at least virtually, the water tanks and delivery trucks, which are in turn equipped with asset tracking technology. The asset-tracking technology uses a leading-edge machine-to-machine (M2M) technology solution, designed by AT&T. There are centralized stations located in

Port-au-Prince that fill the delivery trucks with up to **1,250 gallons of water per day**. One truck can provide an estimated **2,500 people** with clean drinking water.

M2M solutions pull together remote sources of information so that they can be managed centrally. They have a wide variety of applications. In the United States, AT&T's M2M solutions have been used in building access control, health care, vending machines and meter reading.

You mentioned some other relief efforts and support that AT&T provided to Haiti. Could you elaborate?

We provided support to earthquake victims through a variety of programs and initiatives that included direct support for relief organizations, donating and coordinating the donation of wireless devices to help re-establish communications, and providing easy ways for our customers and employees to help in the effort.

Learn more about our work in Haiti and other Disaster Relief efforts at att.com/csr

