Cobham helps Haiti aid agency talk to the world

CONCORD, CA – Disaster relief agency Friend Ships Unlimited will benefit from fast, reliable satellite communications on future aid voyages to Haiti, thanks to Cobham’s donation of a one-metre Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) satellite communications system for the agency’s ship Integrity. It will be powered by a Cobham SATCOM Sea Tel antenna and Mobil Sat’s service.

Integrity has previously completed two voyages to Haiti, carrying medical equipment and personnel, water, food, shelter equipment and power generators. The new satellite communications capability will help the crew better coordinate its relief efforts in the inevitable confusion following a natural disaster.

“Communication and obtaining current information are the key factors in being able to respond to a crisis in the most effective way,” said Teri Shields of Friend Ships Unlimited. “The Cobham antenna system is a tremendous asset to our disaster relief operations. With this new tool, we'll be able to receive critical updates from our home office and data on what the greatest needs are, what ports are in service, what potential obstacles loom and more.”

Cobham SATCOM Vice President Richard Tyson said Cobham was proud to help an agency that helps victims of natural disasters.

“Even after weeks and months, the earthquake stricken Haiti needs help,” he said. “Cobham’s equipment will allow Integrity to maximise the efficiency of its operations, ensuring help is provided where it is needed the most.”

About Friend Ships Unlimited: Friend Ships Unlimited (AKA Park West Children’s Fund, Inc.) is dedicated to helping people in times of need and to encourage others to do likewise. The organization works through the collection, delivery and distribution of food, medical supplies, clothing and building materials and by providing medical services and disaster relief services. We provide aid to people of all races, nationalities and religions at no charge. Programs give help to children, families and individuals who are impoverished, refugees, and/or victims of natural disaster and to the institutions who assist them. Friend Ships operates with full-time and part-time unpaid volunteers, working within the United States and in other areas around the world.

About Cobham SATCOM: Cobham SATCOM’s Sea-Tel range was founded in 1978, and is now one of the world's leading ranges of marine stabilized antenna systems for satellite communications and satellite television at sea. Cobham SATCOM has 30 years of marine experience and is dedicated to constant improvement through innovation and design enhancement. The antennas range from 14 inches to 14 feet, the widest range of any maritime antenna manufacturer and enable connectivity in the harshest environment on the planet across all maritime segments.

Cobham SATCOM is a leader in mobile satellite communications technology and interoperability solutions for commercial and governmental mobile broadband satellite communicate ons. The core expertise of the business is in automated satellite acquisition and tracking equipment, in all bands across the frequency spectrum. The antennas and communications services are used for military and governmental agencies such as homeland security and law enforcement to provide secure, reliable and efficient communications.
About Cobham: Cobham’s products and services have been at the heart of sophisticated military and civil systems for more than 75 years, keeping people safe, improving communications, and enhancing the capability of land, sea, air and space platforms. The Company has four divisions employing more than 12,000 people on five continents, with customers and partners in over 100 countries and annual revenue of some £1.9bn / $3 billion.

Contacts:
Atul Chawla Philip Smart
Product Marketing Media Relations
Manager +44 1202 857 529
+1 925 798 7979 Philip.smart@cobham.com
Atul.Chawla@cobham.com