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Saving Lives and Improving Health with an Innovative Recycling Idea: The Global Soap Project & PODS

Derreck Kayongo, a former refugee from Uganda, became keenly aware through personal experience, that soap could reduce an exorbitant number of preventable deaths and illnesses. In 2009, he founded an organization, Global Soap Project (GSP), whose mission is to improve global health and save lives by providing recycled soap to vulnerable populations.

Every day 2.6 million bars of soap are discarded by the U.S. hotel industry. By reclaiming a portion of this discarded soap, GSP is helping to reduce environmental waste while also helping reduce preventable deaths caused by lack of sanitation and proper hygiene. The partially used and leftover soap is reprocessed and distributed to vulnerable populations such as refugees, orphans, and disaster victims. To date, soap has been shipped to nine countries.

“Millions of people around the world live on less than one dollar a day, and to them soap is a luxury. Any money they have must be used for food and shelter. To be able to turn a waste product such as discarded soap into a life saving item is amazing and humbling,” says Derreck Kayongo, founder of Global Soap Project.

Derreck was recently featured as one of the 2011 CNN Heroes, and with the added press attention and the success of the Global Soap Project efforts, they completely filled their warehouse with soap donations and needed extra storage. This is when Ed McCrady, the owner of PODS Atlanta NE was able to step in. Ed donated a PODS brand storage container for them to use on-site for a few months, so they could handle the backlog of soap they collected.

Vicki Gordon, a founding board member of Global Soap Project stated, “We are so grateful for the donation of the PODS unit as it is making a huge difference for us already.”

Ed commented, “We have heard about the importance of clean water, but it makes sense that having soap could make a difference for those who do not have access to it. This is an innovative project and PODS is happy to play a role in supporting it.”

About The Global Soap Project

GSP is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in the state of Georgia. The objectives of the organization are three fold: 1) reduce waste that can be recycled into lifesaving material, 2) improve access to good hygiene products for vulnerable populations including orphans, refugees, and disaster victims, 3) create a sustainable model that provides long-term sanitation and health solutions. For more

information visit <http://www.globalsoap.org> or contact Vicki Gordon at vicki@globalsoap.org

About PODS Enterprises, Inc.

Founded in 1998, PODS currently provides moving and storage services to more than 240 million consumers in 48 U.S. states, Canada, Australia and soon the United Kingdom through its company-owned and independent franchise network. To date, the PODS network has completed more than 250,000 long-distance relocations, exceeded 1 million deliveries and has more than 140,000 PODS® containers in service.

PODS® secure containers are constructed of a steel frame and are available in three sizes: approximately 8-by-7-by-7 feet, 8-by-8-by-12 feet and 8-by-8-by-16 feet. The 12-foot and 16-foot containers have been tested to withstand winds of more than 110-mph when partially loaded. For more information or to schedule service, visit PODS.com or call 800-776-7637.