



SQUARE D

Schneider Electric – North American Operating Division
1415 South Roselle Road • Palatine, IL 60067-7399 • Tel. (847) 397-2600 • Fax (847) 925-7271

Contact:

Jen Dirks

Bader Rutter & Associates

Phone: (262) 938-5565

Fax: (262) 938-5552

jdirks@bader-rutter.com

Tim Trush

Schneider Electric, North American Operating Division

Phone: (847) 397-2600

timothy-m.trush@us.schneider-electric.com

www.us.schneider-electric.com

SQUARE D® CONTRIBUTES TO HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS IN MISSISSIPPI
Donations Distributed Across Four Unique Projects Help Restore Normalcy to Gulf Region

PALATINE, III. – July 20, 2006 – Almost a year after Hurricane Katrina dealt its devastating blow to the Gulf Region, Square D – best known in the United States as Schneider Electric’s flagship brand for electrical distribution equipment – announced today its donation to four separate initiatives in Mississippi: Pascagoula Beach Park, the Milner Football Stadium and Charity Golf Tournament in Gulfport, and the Stone High School Baseball Field in Wiggins.

The donated funds are part of a larger effort by Square D to rebuild cherished community locations and organizations throughout the Gulf Region and improve the lives of those who live there. Total monetary donations to the collective efforts tallied over \$1 million.

“Giving back to the community has always been a core value of our company, especially in the face of devastating disasters such as Hurricane Katrina,” said Dave Petratis, president and CEO of the Schneider Electric North American Operating Division. “In seeking out independent initiatives, we could ensure our money was aiding a variety of important projects, including four fantastic efforts in Mississippi.”

The four initiatives in Mississippi supported by the donation include:

The Pascagoula Beach Park – Pascagoula, Miss.

Pascagoula had one of its popular parks, Beach Park, destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The tot lot playground and the large playground provided hours of fun for children in the community from ages 2 through 12, until they were destroyed by floodwaters. The donation from Square D will go toward restoring both playground areas, as well as a large picnic pavilion.

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Schneider Electric
North American Operating Division
1415 South Roselle Road
Palatine, IL 60067-7399
Tel. (1) 847-397-2600
Fax (1) 847-925-7271
www.us.schneider-electric.com

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“The donation means so much to the City of Pascagoula and its residents because Beach Park is the most widely used park in town,” said Darcie Crew, director of parks & recreation for the city of Pascagoula. “The city couldn’t afford to rebuild the park without help from Square D. The funds have brought tremendous hope to those who love the park.”

The damaged equipment has been removed, and the effort to restore Pascagoula’s Beach Park is well under way. The playgrounds and pavilion are expected to reopen in August.

Milner Football Stadium – Gulfport, Miss.

Milner Stadium, the home of Gulfport High School, also could not avoid Hurricane Katrina’s destructive path, resulting in the most extensive and expensive renovation in the stadium’s history. The stadium suffered damage to the light poles, scoreboard, bleachers and fencing. Square D is helping out with one important component of the relief effort: the scoreboard. The company is not only funding it, but also is helping to install it. The restoration of the stadium is in progress and scheduled for completion by the start of the 2006 football season in late August.

Golf Fundraiser – Gulfport, Miss.

Square D also reached out to Gulfport’s youth sports program by agreeing to match funds in the City of Gulfport Charity Golf tournament, which was initiated and sponsored by two local companies and raised a total of \$50,000 for the community. The company also donated merchandise for a fundraising raffle and hats and towels for tournament participants.

The Stone High School Baseball Field – Stone County, Miss.

For several consecutive years, parents of the Stone High School baseball team have raised \$20,000 per year toward renovations to their school’s baseball field – making it more enjoyable for players and fans – only to see Hurricane Katrina completely wipe out their effort. The charitable donation from Square D will not only fund necessary repairs to ensure the field is both operational and safe for players and fans, but the gift also will restore the projects previously financed by the parents’ fundraising efforts. These initiatives include repairing and replacing items such as lights, fences, bleachers, bull pen areas and the fields’ playing surface as well as the concession stand, batting cages, safety netting, inclement weather practice facility and scoreboard.

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“We [players, coaches and parents] take tremendous pride in this facility and are really appreciative of all of the help from Square D,” Coach Kevin Conard said. “By making the necessary investments to upgrade the field, we are hoping to create a tradition in Stone County that will have a positive impact on the lives of our kids for decades to come.”

The new baseball field and facility will be repaired by the team and its supporters over the next six months and is expected to be ready by the opening pitch of the 2007 baseball season.

“We are proud to support such a wide variety of valuable causes to make certain residents of Mississippi are able to once again enjoy special places in their community,” said Karl Newquist, hurricane recovery project leader for the Schneider Electric North American Operating Division. “More than anything, we wanted our donations to help restore normalcy to some of the many lives and organizations still affected daily by Hurricane Katrina’s devastation, especially initiatives directly related to our youth.”

For additional information regarding Square D’s Hurricane Katrina relief effort, log on to <http://www.us.schneider-electric.com>.

Headquartered in Palatine, Ill., the North American Operating Division of Schneider Electric had sales of \$2.8 billion (U.S.) in 2005. The North American Operating Division is one of four operating divisions of Schneider Electric, headquartered in Paris, France, and markets the Square D, Telemecanique and Merlin Gerin brand products to customers in the United States, Canada and Mexico. In the United States, Schneider Electric is best known by its flagship Square D brand, with Telemecanique becoming increasingly known in the industrial control and automation markets and supported by many Square D distributors. For 100 years, Square D has been a market-leading brand of electrical distribution and industrial control products, systems and services. Schneider Electric is a global electrical industry leader with 2005 sales of approximately \$14.5 billion (U.S.). Visit Schneider Electric on the Internet at:

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