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## CHF International and Caterpillar Named Finalists in U.S. Chamber of Commerce Corporate Citizenship Award

*Partnership responsible for leading rubble removal efforts in Haiti – and establishing a long-term Haitian workforce*

**Silver Spring, MD (October 5, 2010)** — CHF International, the Silver Spring-MD based international development and humanitarian assistance organization, with its private sector partner Caterpillar, today announced it has been selected as one of four finalists in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Business Civic and Leadership Center (BCLC) Corporate Citizenship Awards. The prestigious award, now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, recognizes leading companies and their nonprofit partners. You can vote for them [here](#).

CHF and Caterpillar are finalists not only because of the impact of their joint response in the days and months following the January 12 Haiti earthquake, but also because of their long-term commitment to Haiti that predates the earthquake. Because of the magnitude of the tragedy, CHF knew it needed more resources than it had available. It was then that Caterpillar and CHF made contact. A long-time partner of CHF, Caterpillar immediately started to mobilize resources to aid Haiti, bolstering an already strong partnership with collaborations in Haiti, India and Lebanon. As the first members of CHF Emergency Response Team arrived in Haiti, there were four Caterpillar expert equipment operators with them. These operators came from around the world to assess the situation, determine the equipment needed and kick-start the response. They quickly created refresher classes to scale up the operator capacity in Haiti, and helped affected communities using equipment donated by HAYTRAC, Caterpillar’s authorized dealer in Haiti.

What makes this partnership extraordinary is not that a company stepped up in the face of a disaster but that Caterpillar’s dealer, HAYTRAC, had already been engaged in helping Haiti long before it hit the headlines. Working with CHF International, in 2009 this public private partnership opened the Maurice Bonnefil Training Center, which, by August 2010, has trained 80 skilled Haitian Caterpillar operators, all of whom are engaged in the recovery process of the country. Working with CHF, they have removed almost a quarter of all rubble removed since the earthquake struck.

“Without Caterpillar and HAYTRAC’s support, we would have not been able to accomplish so much in such a short amount of time,” said Richard Burns, CHF International’s Director of Haiti Programs in Silver Spring, MD. “We are very fortunate to have Caterpillar as a partner not only in the post-earthquake reconstruction efforts, but as a long-term partner in our training center, as we feel their commitment to Haiti is as strong as ours.”

**Public voting is now open and will continue through November 5, 2010. To vote, please visit [http://bclc.uschamber.com/bclc/awards/2010\\_partnership\\_caterpillar.htm](http://bclc.uschamber.com/bclc/awards/2010_partnership_caterpillar.htm).**

**ABOUT THE AWARD:** The BCLC Corporate Citizenship Award encompasses four categories: U.S. Community Service, International Community Service, Business-Nonprofit Partnership, and Stewardship. The Business-Nonprofit Partnership category, of which CHF and Caterpillar are a finalist, is a “people’s choice” award focused on highlighting companies and organizations working together to exemplify success on an important social issue. The winner will be determined by public vote on the [U.S. Chamber BCLC voting portal](#).

**ABOUT CHF INTERNATIONAL:** CHF International (CHF) is an international development organization founded in 1952 that works in post-conflict, unstable and developing countries. CHF partners with communities around the world to help them to improve and direct their lives and livelihoods. The organization believes that those best suited to decide what a community needs are the community itself. CHF is a politically neutral, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. For more information, visit [www.chfinternational.org](http://www.chfinternational.org).

**ABOUT CATERPILLAR:** For more than 85 years, Caterpillar Inc. has been making progress possible and driving positive and sustainable change on every continent. With 2009 sales and revenues of \$32.396 billion, Caterpillar is the world's leading manufacturer of construction and mining equipment, diesel and natural gas engines and industrial gas turbines. The company also is a leading services provider through Caterpillar Financial Services, Caterpillar Remanufacturing Services, Caterpillar Logistics Services and Progress Rail Services. More information is available at: <http://www.cat.com>.