

# HF HIGHLAND® FORWARDING

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## PRESS RELEASE 19th DECEMBER 2011

### NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA COMPANY SENDS THE GIFT OF LIFE TO AFRICA



Highland Forwarding, Inc., based in Bedford, NH has partnered with a charitable organization "charity:water" based in New York, NY and donated \$ 32,000 worth of freight shipping services to send a drilling rig to Ethiopia. The rig will be used to drill wells for up to 40,000 people a year who

previously had no access to clean drinking water and thus saving and prolonging many thousands of lives. Charity:water - founded by Scott Harrison - has a mission of helping to provide clean drinking water to the world's poorest - primarily in Central and Sub-Saharan Africa. 100% of all public contributions go directly to the water projects overseas, while staff is funded through other means. Highland Forwarding, Inc. was founded in 1998 in New Hampshire by an immigrant/refugee from former communist Czechoslovakia Mr. Radek Maly. Highland provides freight shipping services to companies worldwide. In the last 5 years it has placed 4 times on the INC5000 list of fastest growing private companies in the USA and currently employs a staff of 20 highly qualified professionals at its office in Bedford, NH. During the September 2011 INC5000 award ceremony, charity:water made a presentation to the INC 5000 audience about its projects and goals in Africa, including a fundraising campaign for a \$1.2 million drilling rig for Ethiopia. Using a drilling rig will tremendously speed up the process of providing the wells that in the past have been dug mostly by hand.

Mr. Maly recognized an opportunity to help in providing the shipping services to move the rig and a 40' container from the manufacturer Fraste in Nogara, Italy to the African port of Djibouti, where charity:water's partner REST will pick it up and put in operation. The value of the shipping and insurance Highland provided is over \$32,000. The money saved for shipping enabled the rig fundraising campaign to conclude faster and any extra money to be used for a second rig.

Highland is excited to be part of this project. In its daily work Highland enables the smooth flow of goods worldwide. Highland helps the world ship the goods from point A to point B: from importing toys from China to USA to exporting industrial chillers from USA to Iraq or Thailand. Charity:water drilling rigs are a real crown jewel that proves the benefits of world trade. A highly developed technology from a first-world country will be used in the most impoverished part of the planet to save lives of



*The owner of the manufacturer Fraste with the truck on the day of departure from factory.*

The drilling rig with all accessories loaded into a 40 foot open top container has shipped from Italy on December 8, 2011 and arrived in Africa just before the end of the year.

Charity:water has already purchased a 2<sup>nd</sup> rig to be ready in June 2012 and has plans for at least 18 more. Highland Forwarding is seeking ways to be able to offer free shipping services for all future rigs as well.



*Container being loaded at the factory in Nogara, Italy.*

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If you would like to help Highland in financing shipping of future trucks, please visit: <http://mycharitywater.org/highland>  
For more information about Highland Forwarding, please visit [www.highlandforwarding.com](http://www.highlandforwarding.com)  
For more information about charity:water please visit [www.charitywater.org](http://www.charitywater.org)



## CARRYING ON THE SPIRIT OF DECEASED 11-YEAR OLD RACHEL BECKWITH

Just two months after Rachel Beckwith's ninth birthday, the fundraising campaign of the Seattle, WA girl who died in a traffic accident in July 2011 has raised more than \$1 million to bring clean water to African villages.

There has been an outpouring of donations to the nonprofit called charity:water, which brings clean drinking water to people in developing countries, since the story of Beckwith's wish to raise \$300 for safe drinking water by her ninth birthday captured the hearts of the local community and the nation.



Beckwith's campaign on [charitywater.org](http://charitywater.org) had raised \$1,265,824 from 31,997 donations.

"We're thrilled with the response," said Sarah Cohen, spokeswoman for charity: water. "It's the largest fundraising campaign in our history by far."

To date, charity: water has raised more than \$40 million since it opened its doors five years ago.

In May, Rachel had her mother help her create a webpage saying that, in lieu of birthday gifts, she wanted to raise \$300 for safe drinking water in Africa. By her birthday in June, \$220 had been raised.

On July 20, Rachel was injured in a crash on I-90 in Bellevue, and she died three days later.

When news stories of Rachel's death described her charitable effort, the donations skyrocketed.

"I am in awe of the overwhelming love to take my daughter's dream and make it a reality," Rachel's mother, Samantha Paul, wrote on Rachel's webpage. "In the face of unexplainable pain you have provided undeniable hope."



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## WHY CLEAN DRINKING WATER ?

(information from [charity:water](http://charity:water) website)

### Health and Sanitation

Diseases from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. Children are especially vulnerable, as their bodies aren't strong enough to fight diarrhea, dysentery and other illnesses.

90% of the 30,000 deaths that occur every week from unsafe water and unhygienic living conditions are of children under five years old. Many of these diseases are preventable. The UN predicts that one tenth of the global disease burden can be prevented simply by improving water supply and sanitation.

### Women and Children

In Africa alone, people spend 40 billion hours every year just walking for water. Women and children usually bear the burden of water collection, walking miles to the nearest source, which is unprotected and likely to make them sick. Time spent walking and resulting diseases keep them from school, work and taking care of their families.

Along their long walk, they're subjected to a greater risk of harassment and sexual assault. Hauling cans of water for long distances takes a toll on the spine and many women experience back pain early in life.

With safe water nearby, women are free to pursue new opportunities and improve their families' lives. Kids can earn their education and build the future of their communities.

### Economies / communities

In Africa alone, the overall economic loss due to lack of safe water and sanitation is USD28 billion, or about 5% of GDP. In areas where gathering water is impossible, small-scale private water distributors charge full market prices, forcing the poorest households to spend up to 11% of their income on life's most basic need. Even this water is most likely contaminated if it has been collected from unprotected rivers or ponds.

*"Water is an astonishingly complex and subtle force in an economy. It is the single constraint on the expansion of every city, and bankers and corporate executives have cited it as the only natural limit to economic growth."*

- Margaret Catley-Carlson, Vice-Chair, World Economic Forum