

Oakland Co. Distributor Heads for Alabama, Helps Disaster Relief with 36,000 Bottles of Donated Water

Powers, O&W, Eastown in metro Detroit join with Penske, United Way

ORION (Friday, May 13, 2011) – Oakland County-based **Powers Distributing Co.** will donate and deliver 36,000 bottles of water early Saturday morning to the region of Alabama struck by monster tornadoes that killed more than 350 people and left thousands injured and homeless. Powers drivers **Randy Spicer** and **Jim Macheske**, along with delivery and fleet manager **Joe Dinverno**, will make the 1,600-plus-mile drive to Tuscaloosa, Ala., on a truck donated by **Penske**.

The early Saturday morning delivery is part of an effort by Powers to assist with disaster relief in Alabama, partnering with other metro Detroit distributors, **O&W Inc.** based in Ypsilanti and **Eastown Distributors Co.** based in Highland Park.

“When we saw the devastation in Alabama, we knew we had to do something to help the survivors get back on their feet,” said **Jerry Powers**, president of **Powers**, on Friday during a media availability session. “Our employees at Powers deserve the credit for taking the initiative and volunteering to help deliver the water to Alabama. When Michigan’s economy was in serious trouble, the rest of the nation stood with us and helped us get back on our feet. We’re proud to work with our fellow distributors and other partners here in Michigan to help our fellow Americans recovering in the South.”

Established in 1939, Powers Distributing was one of Michigan’s first Miller Brewing products distributors. Today, Powers delivers more than 100 quality Michigan and international beverage products to 2,600-plus retailers and customers in Oakland and Macomb counties. Powers employs more than 210 people in good-paying skilled jobs, with benefits, making it one of Oakland County’s leading job providers.

Powers spearheads many local programs geared toward fighting underage drinking and drunken driving, from sponsoring motivational speakers who address high school students, to launching multi-media campaigns and going into communities to promote responsible alcohol use.

Powers Distributing has been recognized as a national leader in sustainability and conservation. Earlier this year, Powers made history as the first national distributor to roll out an entire fleet of hybrid electric-biofuel delivery trucks and tractors, which will slash Powers’ diesel use. For its efforts, Powers won the 2009 Michigan Clean Transportation award for its investments in biofuel-hybrids trucks and tractors, as part of its commitment to reducing the nation’s dependence on imported oil, supporting homegrown renewable fuels and creating U.S. jobs.

To learn more about Powers: www.powersdistributing.com.

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