



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PLASTICS INDUSTRY, DURING INTERNATIONAL TRADE SHOW
COLLECTS, THEN DONATES \$7,000+ TO AMERICAN RED CROSS TO FIGHT EBOLA**

WASHINGTON, DC (April 28, 2015) – SPI, the plastics industry trade association, reports more than \$7,000 was collected and given to the American Red Cross to help in their fight against Ebola. This took place during a series of special events at America’s second largest trade show.

The donations were given by show visitors and leading plastics firms during NPE2015, the international plastics showcase owned and run by the SPI every three years in Orlando FL. This international event attracted more than 65,000 visitors and media from around the globe.

Nothing is more rewarding than working with an organization that is on the front lines when a disaster strikes a community or a family,” SPI President and CEO, William R. Cardeaux said. “We were honored that the Red Cross joined us at NPE2015, and we hope to strengthen our relationship with the international organization going forward. SPI staff and members are particularly grateful to the NPE attendees and staff who so generously donated to this worthy cause.”

According to officials at the Washington-based SPI, the American Red Cross was invited to participate in a large booth set up by the SPI and the Flexible Vinyl Alliance (FVA), affiliated with the SPI, and their members. Both firms are headquartered in Washington, DC. Highlighted in the special booth were dozens of products made from plastic (and specifically vinyl/PVC) that are used in the fight against Ebola. A large isolation bed unit and mannequins dressed in special protective garments were also on display. Representatives from the Mid-Florida Region of the American Red Cross participated to explain the roles and efforts of their organization in helping stem the spread of Ebola in Africa, and elsewhere.





During the course of the 5-day show, booth sponsors and company representatives from these firms asked visitors and participants to donate to American Red Cross. Donations were also given by the SPI, the Vinyl Institute, the Flexible Vinyl Alliance (FVA), the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) and the Wallcoverings Association, among others.

Sylvia Bova, Community Development Officer of the American Red Cross Mid-Florida Region, notes, “We are extremely grateful for the generous donation by the SPI, visitors and the plastics industry. Further, we were most pleased and enlightened to learn how this industry and its products are used throughout the medical products industry. It was also a notable educational experience for everyone who stopped by the booth to donate and learn about our Ebola-related activities.

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