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# Southwest Airlines Shares its LUV With U.S. Troops

## Employees Donate, Package, and Load Supplies on a U.S. Navy Cargo Vehicle Bound for Troops Abroad

DALLAS, Aug. 3 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Hundreds of Southwest Airlines Employees today lined the runway gate near Southwest's headquarters in a send-off for a U.S. Navy Cargo truck carrying goodie bags for more than 1,000 U.S. troops overseas. This is the final step of a month long program to raise support for the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The goodie bags contained much-needed items donated by Southwest Employees as part of a companywide Share the Spirit supply drive. For the past month, Southwest Employees donated goods such as toiletries, socks, sunscreen, candy, and powdered drink mix at each of its 63 locations across the nation. The donated items were packaged into individual goodie bags with handwritten postcards inside for the soldiers. Since many of Southwest's Employees have served, or are currently serving in the military, this project is close to home.

Earlier today, 50 Southwest Employees, including many who served in the military, loaded the goodie bags onto the U.S. Navy Cargo truck. A giant LUV Rations postcard with an encouraging message from a Southwest Employee and a giant USO phone card were placed on the truck to further illustrate Southwest's contributions to the troops.

As a part of its Share the Spirit initiative, Southwest partnered with the USO and its OPERATION PHONE HOME program to provide phone cards for the troops. Through the USO website, Southwest Employees donated more than \$50,000, which translates into a million units of call time for the troops!

"We are proud to support the men and women who sacrifice so much to protect our country," says Ken Murray, Southwest Purchasing Buyer and U.S. Navy Second Class Petty Officer. "As a member of the Navy, I understand how important it is to feel support from friends back home."

As part of Southwest Airlines' Share the Spirit program, Employees are devoted to each and every community the airline serves. Throughout the year, Southwest Airlines Employees reach out to individuals, families, and entire communities providing help where it is needed. Southwest's Share the Spirit is ingrained in the Company's Culture, and the airline's 33,000+ Employees are often the lifeline for those in need.

After 36 years of service, Southwest Airlines continues to offer the best value in airline travel, allowing Customers the opportunity to travel nonstop throughout the country at a very low fare. Southwest offers a very comfortable ride with all premium leather seats and plenty of legroom. Southwest does not charge Customers an extra fee for changing their reservation and continues to offer free amenities. Customers enjoy complimentary pillows, blankets, snacks, juice, soda, and water on all flights. Since 1987, the airline has maintained the fewest overall Customer complaints as published in the Department of Transportation's Air Travel Consumer Report. Southwest Airlines (NYSE: LUV), the nation's largest carrier in

terms of domestic passengers enplaned, currently serves 63 cities in 32 states. Based in Dallas, Southwest currently operates more than 3,300 flights a day and has more than 33,000 Employees systemwide.

<http://www.southwest.com>

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