

News Release

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GHSP Sends Holiday Cheer to Troops in Middle East

Grand Haven, MI - GHSP's three Michigan locations, Grand Haven, Hart and Madison Heights, are sending holiday cheer to troops in Afghanistan and Iraq this year.



242 Cards, 124 GHSP Employees and two American Legion Representatives

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222 – GHSP Sends Holiday Cheer

On December 3, GHSP Grand Haven employees made 242 holiday cards and presented them to local American Legion Post Commander, David L. Mackellar, and his Service Officer, Carl Lori. These cards will bring holiday cheer to Bravo Company 1-147th Aviation Headquarters Battalion, a Michigan Army National Guard Aviation Company currently deployed in Iraq nearly half-way through their deployment.

On the same day, GHSP Hart employees made holiday cards, wreaths and decorations for soldiers serving our country in the Middle East. One hundred and ninety-eight cards, 26 wreaths decorated with candy canes, candy, and other items and 192 ornaments, a total of 14 boxes full, were sent on December 4th to three separate units, all deployed in or headed to Afghanistan.

GHSP Hart employees have ties to some soldiers stationed overseas. Of the three units receiving boxes filled with good tidings, one unit includes SSGT Kevin Stanfield, the son of GHSP employee Laurie Gatton. Another unit includes SSGT Nicole Hammerle, recommended to GHSP by a local Marine, and the third unit includes Major Eric Wilson, a GHSP employee serving with the reserves. Wilson is currently stationed in Edinburgh, Indiana, so those boxes will make their way to Afghanistan with a brief stopover in Indiana.

About 425 employees participated in this event, which in Hart included a friendly decoration competition judged by GHSP's president and engineering employees from other GHSP locations. This volunteer project is one of many the GHSP employees have participated in as part of an effort to achieve 100% volunteer rate among employees for the current year.

"It is important to remember those who will be separated from their families due to military service this year," said Paul Doyle, president and CEO of GHSP. "This is our way of showing appreciation to these fine men and women for their service to our country."

GHSP is a leading global supplier of mechanical and mechatronic control systems to surface transportation industries, including automotive, heavy truck and others. The company serves its customers from concept to delivery with world class product design, development and program management, as well as excellence in manufacturing in locations around the world. Visit www.ghsp.com to learn more about the company.

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Response to Our Letters sent over seas:

A Blackhawk Helicopter pilot who received one of our Holiday cards just sent us a thank you note. It Reads:

Dear Don,

Thank you very much for the card you wrote to me and also the kind words you wrote. My name is Anthony Kurckeberg. I am a Blackhawk helicopter pilot out of Grand Ledge, MI. This is my 5th deployment in my 17 year career. We are doing some very good things here in this country, and the people are very nice. We are currently about halfway done with our rotation.

I cannot express to you in words how much a simple card from a random stranger (now friend) means to us here. The day to day grind kind of makes us feel disconnected from home, but the small token in your mind of saying thank you to us is exponentially huge to us over here.

I hope you have a wonderful X-mas New Years with your family friends.

Thanks again Don,

Your Friend

Tony