

Businesses ready to assist through hurricane season

It only takes one hurricane to devastate an area. Therefore, having a strong support system ready when needed this hurricane season is key to safety and recovery. BIC Alliance member companies' varied offerings can bring you sustainability and peace of mind in hurricane preparation and response.

Ready to assist

Acadian Ambulance is no stranger to hurricanes. An emergency and non-emergency medical transportation provider to Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi, Acadian is always prepared and has an Evacuation Response Operations Center (EROC) it activates in times of natural disasters. EROC consists of a specialized team of operations and support staff dedicated to coordinating the evacuation of health care facilities and whatever other assistance communities need.

Acadian has come to the aid of the Gulf Coast region during Hurricanes Carmen, Babe, Juan, Andrew, Danny, Lili, Ivan, Katrina and Isaac. Katrina put Acadian to its greatest test. The company offered more than 200 ambulances, seven helicopters and 2,000 employees to help those who were injured or stranded. For its efforts during the massive hurricane, the company was honored numerous times. During one award ceremony, former President George H. W. Bush said, "I can think of no greater honor than being allowed to participate in this tribute to the men and women of Acadian Ambulance, who were at the forefront of one of the greatest rescue and relief efforts in the history of our nation."

In the process of distributing wireless to a geographic area, it is often necessary to place transceivers outdoors. **Apprion** understands facilities cannot afford to overlook effects of the environment and natural disasters on the life of the equipment and the performance of the wireless system. Apprion's hardware products have been built to withstand the environmental harshness that comes from a hurricane. For example, Apprion's IONizers, industrial wireless network appliances, provide a stable enclosure that allows the product to survive harsh environments. IONizers have been in service for seven years in multiple locations that experience hurricanes and other severe weather so there is practical data on product performance due to environmental failure and it has been excellent.

Bengal Transportation is a specialized carrier serving the continental U.S. Bengal is experienced in turnkey projects involving crane and rigging, transporta-

tion and logistic services. If it's large, heavy or unusual, chances are Bengal has lifted and hauled it. Bengal stands ready to offer vital support and rapid-response assistance to area industries and infrastructure in the event of a hurricane or natural disaster. With state-of-the-art equipment, a talented team, and a strong emphasis on safety awareness and professional performance, Bengal has you covered this hurricane season.

Over past hurricane seasons, the team at **BEST WESTERN PLUS Richmond Inn & Suites** in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has assisted both evacuees from affected areas and emergency assistance and recovery workers such as Entergy and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Meeting spaces can be rented for temporary business operations. To secure guaranteed housing, emergency preparedness corporate and group contracts can be negotiated in advance. With 141 rooms, including spacious apartment-like suites, the hotel is perfect for long-term stays. Suites offer a bedroom with one king or two queen beds, a separate living room with pullout sofa and full kitchen with full-size refrigerator, stove-top oven, dishwasher, and stocked cookware, flatware and dinnerware.

Cherry Cos. has disaster and business recovery plans to safeguard its employees and property. Routine preparedness includes daily backup of main computers and the storing of emergency supplies at each of its 10 locations around Houston. Cherry's hurricane disaster plans and response preparedness are based on storm categories beginning with a tropical disturbance and going through Category 5 hurricanes.

Once the company and its employees are safe, Cherry is prepared to assist governmental agencies and municipalities with clean up. Its trained disaster response teams can act promptly with specialized equipment to handle a wide range of cleanup assignments. Cherry has responded by helping clean up after Hurricane Ike and Hurricane Rita. The company also served as a consultant in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

ClearSpan Fabric Structures provides design-build solutions and has been helping with emergency preparation and response for decades. ClearSpan builds large, cost-effective fabric structures up to 300-feet wide and at any length without sacrificing the durability of the building. ClearSpan created two design-build solutions, connected by three breezeways, for a group on Long Island after Superstorm Sandy. The two 100-foot wide by 300-foot

long Hercules Truss Arch Buildings in Yaphank, New York, were engineered to meet the Suffolk County building code of 30 pounds per square foot of snow and a wind load of 120 mph.

ClearSpan's versatility of in-house design, engineering, manufacturing and installation allows its fabric structures to meet the wind- and snow-load ratings of any municipality. With multiple foundation options, the buildings can be erected in a matter of weeks at a very low cost per square foot price. For Brookhaven, ClearSpan had the entire structure assembled in less than two months from the order.

CS Unitec's CS 2000 water vacuum and debris containment system is ideal for removing water from flooded rooms. The CS 2000 vacuum features an integrated sump pump that pumps 78 gallons per minute (GPM) at ground level and has a maximum water lift of 18 feet. Delivery is 10.5 GPM at 10 feet. In flooded areas, it will pick up large volumes of water and particles up to 3/8-inch diameter.

For normal wet/dry vacuuming, the motor and pump operate from two independent switches. The CS 2000 is easy to use, maneuver and transport indoors or out. It comes with a portable cart with large wheels, locking front casters and a 26-foot power cord. The stainless steel tank can be tilted for emptying water or lifted out of the cart for easy transport.

Empire Scaffold has a set hurricane plan to provide the best and most cost-efficient manner of dealing with the threat and occurrence of hurricanes. Empire Scaffold Corporate Support/Marketing Manager Brandon Collins recommends facilities acquire an on-site laydown yard of miscellaneous scaffold material prior to hurricane season.

"Having the material already on site and ready to be erected to assess any damage the storm may have caused is critical in time management and cost," Collins said. "Empire Scaffold can freight in material and stage it at the facility prior to the season, and if a hurricane was to hit and cause damage, laborers could be sent to begin erecting the material."

Essex Crane Rental Corp.'s locations in Florida, Alabama and the Texas/Louisiana Gulf Coast region have positioned the company to experience and manage multiple hurricanes. Its policies for storm preparedness include early customer written and personal contact notifications of what should be done to protect the crawler cranes in or near the path of approaching storms. High water — in particular, salt water — causes



the most severe damage to the functions and integrity of a crawler crane. Essex advises customers to move the equipment to high ground, lower the boom and park with the counterweight facing the direction of the incoming storm. For units that cannot be boomed down, lower the boom as far as possible and allow the crane to weathervane.

Essex Crane technicians, supported by Elite OEM distributors, will assist customers with storm preparation and are dispatched following a storm to evaluate the crane's condition. Following any hurricane or tropical storm, the crane should not be started before it has been inspected.

Honeywell Safety Products (HSP) offers a comprehensive array of head-to-toe PPE and solutions to protect workers during normal and extreme weather conditions. The solutions range from world-class respiratory products that are critical to post-hurricane cleanup efforts to North brand lockout/tagout products to isolate equipment that must be shut down during hurricane preparations. For workers who must remain on site during a storm, in addition to normally required PPE, high-visibility rainwear and water-resistant footwear are essential.

Hurricane clean up presents an array of hazards for workers tasked with restoring the jobsite, plant and equipment to pre-storm conditions. Safety eyewear and goggles, face shields, disposable coveralls and gloves, along with confined space and respiratory protection for remediation work, ensure cleanup crews have the extra level of protection needed against hazards created by a storm. HSP also offers products like caution or barricade tape and traffic cones to isolate areas that become safety hazards.

Hunter has designed and developed a storm shelter that meets the guidelines of FEMA 320/361 and International Code Council®/National Storm Shelter Association Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters (ICC-500). Hunter storm shelters are made to withstand the impact of a projectile object propelled horizontally up to 250 mph and have several sizes to choose from. The company's largest standard storm shelter has a maximum occupancy of 142 people. Hunter storm shelters can also be custom-

(Continued on page 80)

ized to meet your specific needs. Every design comes equipped with fire extinguishers, emergency lighting and gravity ventilation. Hunter storm shelters can be placed on the ground or piers and are easily relocated depending on the location of the threat. These combined features make Hunter's storm shelters the safest choice for all of your inclement weather needs.

Industrial Solutions Inc. can provide labor to help remove or tie down loose items within facilities for hurricane readiness and for post-hurricane debris clean up or restaging items removed for protection. The company will also provide scaffolding and insulation material and services for any post-hurricane damage.

Industrial Solutions can supply stand-by workers to stay at your facilities so clean up can start immediately after the storm passes. The company's labor force also doesn't leave during storms because it supplies manpower for environmental companies. Industrial Solutions has generators for its office and the homes of key personnel so it can quickly respond to needs once it is safe to do so.

As an expert in decommissioning, **INTEGRA® Services Technologies** offers a variety of innovative answers to the industry's fast-paced challenges that can come with facing a hurricane. The BTC™ Diamond Wire Undersea Cutting System (DWS) is controlled, installed and monitored by divers or remotely operated vehicles. This self-clamping device eliminates the need for chains or come-alongs and is able to cut 6- to 96-inch debris subsea or topside. INTEGRA also offers the Scorpion™ Shear with a cutting range of 1/2-inch to 24 inches, cutting 24 inches of pipe in 12 seconds. INTEGRA has added The Claw™ to its decommissioning service line — a grapple that is designed to pick up debris with a rated capacity of 40 tons and is rated for picking up pipe or casing up to 48 inches in diameter. INTEGRA strives to provide unparalleled customer service and satisfaction even under worst-case scenario conditions post-storm.

J. J. Keller & Associates Inc.® reminds facility operators to take special care when performing process shutdown operations and to be aware of the laws and regulations that require chemical releases to be minimized during those operations. According to the Clean Air Act, facility owners and operators have a duty to prevent accidental releases of certain substances (see EPA 40 CFR 68.130) and to minimize the consequences of accidental releases that occur.

This "general duty" doesn't cease with the onset of hurricanes. Therefore, prior to a hurricane, a facility should assess its potential for a release, prepare the facility for potential impacts and take steps to prevent releases. It's just as important to

make sure essential personnel are trained to shut down and start-up the system. If the facility experiences a release exceeding applicable reportable quantities, whether the release occurred during process shutdown or was hurricane induced, it must contact the National Response Center, and appropriate State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), immediately.

The JV Driver Group has extensive experience with plant preparation, "ride out" teams and immediate action following a hurricane. Its asbestos abatement and multicrafted scaffold builders are typically first in as the company prepares units for re-entry. In the case of a Houston area landfall, JV Driver's personnel may shift their base of operations to its fabrication facility in Phoenix, Arizona, depending on the storm severity. JV Driver fabricates pipe/steel and assembles modules as a single-site, single-source fabricator without interruption at this location.

KenMor Electric LP has a Hurricane Preparedness Program ready to perform pre-storm and post-storm services. KenMor was the first disaster responder allowed on Galveston Island and surrounding cities after Hurricane Ike.

Assigned personnel and trucks are permitted with the city. Forty-eight hours in advance of the storm, all permitted service trucks, bucket trucks, boom trucks and equipment are serviced. Extra fuel is delivered. Generator sets are ready for temporary power. KenMor's jobsites are safely secured. Electrical crews roll into action, assisting its customers with preparing their homes, businesses and commercial buildings for power and equipment disconnect. Its management team and highly trained electricians are an integral part in the success of preparedness and recovery in a disaster.

Livery Passenger Transportation knows the importance of a timely, well-organized evacuation plan. Based in New Orleans and servicing the entire Gulf Coast region, the company has experience in managing clients' emergency responses to the smallest of tropical storms like Tropical Storm Karen to major disasters like Hurricanes Katrina and Isaac and Superstorm Sandy. Company-specific, strategic disaster plans are Livery Passenger Transportation's specialty.

When disaster is imminent, Livery Passenger Transportation will be there. With an exact plan of action, thoroughly inspected vehicles and chauffeurs, GPS-enabled evacuation routes, energy-efficient propane tanks and 24/7 dispatchers trained to handle emergency situations, its team is ready and able to deliver on its promise — discipline, caring and passion.

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, you can count on

Louisiana Cat for your portable utility needs. Louisiana Cat will bring turnkey rental solutions to your planned or emergency utility needs. Louisiana Cat has one of the largest equipment rental fleets of temperature control, compressed air and generator products on the Gulf Coast. Its unmatched product support services include design, engineering, installation and operation to help solve your temporary utility needs.

To prepare your industrial rack and pinion elevator for hurricane conditions, one should take into account several factors. Is the elevator located within the expected flood plain or subject to expected flooding conditions? **McDonough Elevators** suggests the elevator be positioned above flood levels. In most cases, this would be at the second level but no higher than necessary to mitigate loads in high wind conditions. After the parking location is determined, power should be disconnected from the elevator. This ensures the elevator will not be used in adverse conditions nor returned to operation until a full inspection is conducted.

MSA products are designed to help protect in devastating circumstances:

- GME-P100 Half Mask Respirator adsorbs offensive odors and can help block odors such as bleach or ammonia and water. GME-P100 Full Facepiece Respirator provides integral eye protection and respiratory protection.

- V-Gard® Protective Helmets with Fas-Trac® III Suspensions, and 100-plus MSA accessories including face and hearing protection, provide protection to first responders, cleanup crews and homeowners.

- SoundControl® Form Fit II Disposable Foam Earplugs effortlessly insert into ear and then expand for a comfortable, custom fit.

- Flexi-Chem™ IV Goggles protect against impact from flying debris and splashes. Acetate lenses resist splashes and chemicals while the pliable frame enhances comfort and fit.

- ALTAIR® 5X Multigas Detector tests levels of combustible gases in LEL (lower explosive limits) and/or volume percentage range, oxygen, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, ammonia, chlorine and many others depending on sensor configuration.

Prudent operations include the preparedness to respond to various upset conditions. Weather events are governed by the emergency plan that is contained within the **NAES Safety Manual**. The emergency plan, designed to mitigate risk to the plant and to employees, outlines responses to various events, such as a hurricane, and provides emergency phone numbers. NAES plant staff is routinely trained in emergency preparations so the plan can be put into effect when-

ever needed.

PacTec's philosophy of innovation, coupled with its location along the Gulf Coast, means it has invariably been involved in hurricane preparedness and clean up throughout its history. Its LiftPac® — a flexible container for flowable solids such as sand, soil, gravel and construction debris — has been used as a large-scale sandbag to help shore up levees. And because LiftPacs are palletized for easy delivery and storage, they can either be preordered and stored on site or delivered within one day from shipping points in Louisiana and Texas.

PacTec's tarps and polyethylene liners have also aided in hurricane cleanup efforts. The TransCover® is durable and

If you're in need of services or would like assistance preparing for emergencies, refer to the "BIC Alliance Member Listings."

weatherproof, making it ideal as a temporary roof cover, while the TransLiner® provides safe and secure transport of hurricane debris. TransLiners can also be designed to cover waste loads, which aids in dust and odor control. All of these products are available in bulk quantities in standard sizes and can be ordered via PacTec's online store.

Satellite Shelters Inc. helps clients with their emergency preparedness plans by providing safe space solutions in the event of a total loss or when renovations are needed after a storm. Satellite Shelters' buildings are easily deployable and set up quickly, meaning you can get your business back up and running that much sooner. The company has a full fleet of portable classrooms, modular clinics, mobile offices and blast-resistant modules that stand ready to deliver to your jobsite or location in the event of a storm.

The devastation of a hurricane can be amplified when rebuilding is derailed. The smartest way to avoid delays is to have a rebuilding plan in place. The first step is to secure your facility prior to the storm's arrival in order to reduce the time your company is offline. Whether your goal is solid storm prep or fast clean up, having the right amount of skilled manpower to tackle the extra work is crucial. That's where contractors and millwrights from the **Southern States Millwright Regional Council (SSMRC)** come in.

SSMRC can provide a roster of contractors that each have access to thousands of millwrights across the 11-state southern U.S. One call to SSMRC can double or

(Continued on page 82)

triple the manpower for your job. This virtually unlimited pool of trained and experienced millwrights is also able to travel to the affected area. SSMRC contractors are ready to act when the time is right, with fast deployment of millwrights with the right certifications, qualifications and credentials for even the most stringent of factories, refineries, energy plants, airports, etc. These contractors know every day a facility is offline means millions of dollars lost. Solidifying your rebuilding plan with an SSMRC contractor gives you peace of mind full crews will tend to your damage and get you back up and running as soon as possible.

SWS Environmental Services has been providing disaster response, cleanup and recovery services for several decades. From hurricanes to tornadoes and from forest fires to floods, SWS Environmental Services has always been involved in aiding government and industry in the aftermath of natural disasters. SWS Environmental Services has provided these services in support of some of the nation's most memorable hurricanes.

The success of a disaster response, cleanup and recovery project requires the availability of tremendous resources — experienced and knowledgeable personnel, versatile and dependable equipment, financial strength and logistical expertise. SWS Environmental Services possesses all these things and is prepared to deploy personnel and resources at a moment's notice. The strength of its services comes from experienced management in dealing with disasters and emergency response incidents over the past three decades, and the proximity of

10 response centers within 25 miles of the Gulf and Atlantic coastlines.

Tex-Fin Inc. offers fast turnaround time on down heat transfer equipment in the industry. Should a storm hit your plant or refinery, Tex-Fin is the go-to company for a quick turnaround to get you back on line.

Total Safety In-Plant Service Center technicians have been housed on site at major petrochemical complexes as first responders to provide critical assessment of clients' technical safety equipment, technical safety equipment rental, and support and emergency response services.

Total Safety's trained technical staff can assess damage, replace critical equipment and start repairs as required. To improve the safety of the facility, reduce overall downtime and limit clients' overall exposure to risk. Total Safety can provide the equipment required to help clients get their facilities back in operating condition. This includes respiratory protection, gas detection, fall protection and communications equipment; decontamination and shower trailers; and emergency eyewash and shower stations. Total Safety can also provide personnel to perform safety audits, workplace exposure assessments, industrial hygiene services, medical management and safety attendant services.

PetroChem Inspection Services, now doing business as **TÜV SÜD America, Chemical, Oil and Gas**, stands ready during hurricane season. Its initial priority is to protect employees and equipment because the company needs both to provide immediate service to its valued petrochemical clients after a storm. TÜV SÜD implements its plan ahead of a storm to allow employees adequate time to protect their families and homes. Its Hurricane Emergency Action Plan includes putting together supply kits, identifying safe storage locations for equipment and alternate evacuation routes, testing its generator and communications equipment and keeping employees prepared throughout hurricane season.

Richard Cook, vice president of operations, said, "It is equally important after the storm to get up and running quickly. We need to be immediately available to our clients to provide visual and NDT inspections of petrochemical facilities to support their operations in bringing those facilities back on line as quickly and safely as possible."

Universal Plant Services is well known throughout the refinery, petrochemical, pipeline and power industries as fixed and rotating equipment service industry specialists for routine and emergency outages. Eleven locations strategically located throughout the U.S. — including Deer Park, Alvin, Freeport and Beaumont, Texas; Baton Rouge and

Jena, Louisiana; Chicago; Burlington, Washington; and Fairfield, Modesto and Carson, California — allow Universal Plant Services to respond from parts of the country that are not affected by the hurricanes. This ensures the technical expertise, manpower, tooling and equipment can be available to support all of your plant needs for your fixed and rotating equipment for not only pre-hurricane preparedness but also post-hurricane maintenance, repair, overhaul and start-up.

Western Global designs and manufactures a wide range of transportable and stationary fuel storage tanks from 132 gallons up to 16,000 gallons. With a long list of features and approvals, TransCube and Transtainer products can be quickly deployed to natural disaster sites to assist displaced residents and rescue workers who heavily rely on temporary power sources. Their transportability and unique self-contained design enable swift logistics in time of emergency. During Superstorm Sandy, over 200 fuel tanks and containers were supplied within three days. Western fuel tanks add an extra level of versatility as they can supply back-up fuel to multiple pieces of stand-by equipment and dispense fuel to vehicles at the same time. When disaster strikes, trust Western fuel storage tanks to deliver.

Whether responding to a fire, storm, Haz-Mat spill or confined space rescue, The BRICK LED Light by **Western Technology** is rapidly becoming the emergency service light of choice. Designed and certified as a rugged "portable luminary," The BRICK meets all Class I and II, Division 1 and 2 explosion-proof and low voltage requirements and passes the wet location test. The size of a shoebox and weighing only 10 pounds, The BRICK LED Light throws a deep and wide, clean, cool beam of daytime-bright light. Multiple power options are offered including running off a 150-watt, 2-amp vehicle cigarette lighter inverter. The BRICK's KICK-IT Tough construction will see you through man-made chaos or Mother Nature's worst.

Loss of power is one of the longest-lasting effects of a hurricane impact and can affect the production and safety of businesses for weeks after landfall. **WorkSite Lighting** in Prairieville, Louisiana, offers a number of products and services that can help a worksite recover faster.

WorkSite Lighting specializes in explosion-proof and hazardous location lighting, as well as portable power solutions for both sale and rental, maintains a 24-hour on-call for emergencies 365 days a year and will respond to needs both on and offshore.

Many of WorkSite Lighting's products are generator powered such as its portable hazardous location light tow-

ers and offshore skid-mounted light towers, capable of lighting up 18,000 square feet of worksite. The company also features diesel-powered air compressors and power distribution units, which can help keep companies working in a damaged or blacked-out area. WorkSite Lighting can also provide explosion-proof, battery-powered personal searchlights for work crews responding to dangerous situations.

Prior to a disaster event, **WTMC** engages its customers in extensive pre-planning to identify special services and equipment needs and assists in the development of action plans to initiate the purchase and onboarding of the required support services.

After the storm, WTMC works to help assess damages and develop the scope of work required to complete the repairs and bring the plant back on line in the most time- and cost-efficient manner. The company provides resources to develop planning packages, procurement, work schedules, materials management, execution coordination, cost management and commissioning plans and schedules. WTMC works with its customers to manage changes and adjust the plan and schedule as required.

Zachry's emergency response plan is about much more than protecting facilities from wind and weather. "Our plan has a long history of response after a disaster," said Carl Richardson, vice president of Safety, Health & Environmental, whose job it is to direct the safety programs and systems that prevent injuries and illness to employees. As head of Zachry's Emergency Response Management Team, Richardson said disasters could be any kind of natural or man-made crisis. The team involves a coordinated effort that starts with 20 appointed managers throughout Zachry.

From engineering and IT to security and procurement, nearly every department is represented on the Emergency Response Management Team. The team meets every year in May to train new coordinators and review and update all response plans. Each site is required to have a plan specific to that site's exposures and needs. Another component of Zachry's response effort is the Tool Center of Zachry's Equipment Asset Management and Services Department. It maintains hundreds of generators that can supply emergency power. It also maintains fuel trucks that can be rapidly deployed to affected areas to refuel employees' personal vehicles as well as ensure equipment and generators keep operations going.

If you're in need of services or would like assistance preparing for emergencies, please refer to the "BIC Alliance Member Listings" located in this and every issue of BIC. ●

2014 Hurricane Outlook

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's outlook calls for a 50-percent chance of a below-normal season, a 40-percent chance of a near-normal season and a 10-percent chance of an above-normal season. For the six-month hurricane season, which began June 1, NOAA predicts a 70-percent likelihood of eight to 13 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which three to six could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher) — including one to two major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5 with winds of 111 mph or higher).

For more information, visit www.noaa.gov. ●

