

Orangeburg's DHS Systems to Provide Warmth and Comfort for Knickerbocker Ice Festival Attendees

Shelters for food court and information areas give festival attendees respite from wintry elements

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Pomona, New York – January 13, 2010 – DHS Systems (www.dhssystemslc.com) of Orangeburg will be providing several of its easy-to-erect shelter infrastructures to the event, helping keep attendees nice and toasty warm during the wintry activities. The Knickerbocker Ice Festival, a celebration of the 19th century ice industry in the Hudson Valley, is being held at Rockland Lake State Park on Saturday, January 23rd and Sunday, January 24th.

DHS Systems makes Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelters (DRASH) for the Military, homeland security and emergency medical fields. Several of the DRASH systems will be used to house the Knickerbocker Ice Festival's Food Court and Info Center/Book Store.

Among the DRASH systems being used at the festival are:

- J Series - the largest of the DRASH series of shelters, the entire system provides 1,250 square feet of usable interior space and takes less than 40 minutes to set up. At the Ice Festival, two J Series shelters will be used to house the food court and provide visitors with warmth from the cold
- M Series - the MX Shelter provides 442 square feet of usable interior space, is comprised of one center section that measures 17 feet (5.2 meters) long, and includes two end sections that can be removed to add to the shelter length. The MX Shelter will house the festival's Information Center and Book Store
- Reeves Incident Command Post (ICP) Trailer - the ICP, a complete lightweight, transportable solution to mobilizing a fully-equipped interoperable incident command post, typically used in the event of a manmade or natural disaster, will be used by the Ice Festival organizers as a mobile field office.

"We are pleased to once again bring our industry-leading shelters and putting them to great use at the Knickerbocker Ice Festival," said company spokesperson Naeran Rubio of DHS Systems. "Whether in use during the cold of Rockland Lake, to help provide relief during Katrina in New Orleans, or with the recent flooding in Brazil, our DRASH shelters are manufactured to provide the best possible working conditions under the harshest elements. We look forward to bone-chilling temperatures outside at the Ice Festival, because inside the DRASH shelters it will be abundantly warm."

“This is the second straight year that DRASH has been on hand to assist in providing Ice Festival attendees with an oasis of warmth,” said Maria Rodd, managing director, Knickerbocker Ice Festival, Inc. “Without their assistance we would not be able to provide the comfort levels visitors would expect.”

Something for Everyone

Activities at the Knickerbocker Ice Festival include an Ice Sculpting Invitational, KIDZ Ice Park, Artists In the Parks, crafts tent, Food Court and the Cold Rock Café, educational demonstrations by the Historical Society of Rockland County and Friends of Rockland Lake and Hook Mountain, live dance performances with visitor participation, an historic ice gallery, history and shopping tours, and more.

For more information visit www.knickerbockericefestival.com.

About DRASH

DRASH is an acronym for Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelter System. It is manufactured by DHS Systems LLC, a company located in Orangeburg, NY, that has been producing turn-key shelter structures for the Military, homeland security and emergency medical field since 1984. The company was started by local entrepreneur and patent holder A. Jon Prusmack, who began the company by identifying a need in the military market for quickly deployable mobile hospital systems. Visit (www.dhssystemslc.com) for more information.

About the Knickerbocker Ice Festival (KIF)

KIF celebrates the history of the ice industry at Rockland Lake State Park.. In the 19th century, the Knickerbocker Ice Company harvested ice throughout the Hudson Valley. The ice from Rockland Lake was considered the purest, attracting business from as close as New York City and as far as Asia. The buildings that once made up the Knickerbocker Ice Company at Rockland Lake State Park have been designated a Clarkstown Historic Site.

About Knickerbocker Ice Festival Inc

Knickerbocker Ice Festival Inc (KIFI) is a non-profit organization incorporated for the purpose of implementing the Knickerbocker Ice Festival in cooperation with the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Directors: Maria Rodd, Management; Rosemarie Monaco, Marketing and Timothy Englert, PIPC Consultant. The Knickerbocker Ice Festival Inc relies on sponsorships to make the festival possible. Board of Directors: Maria Rodd, president Casablanca Event Planning; Rosemarie Monaco, president, Group M Inc Public Relations and Marketing, Heather Duke, Director of the Rockland County Dept of Tourism; Gretchen Weerheim, Director of Education, Historical Society of Rockland County.