

Building Communities

Community Relations Newsletter



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AVNET LOGISTICS DONATION HELPS HEAL DUTCH ATHLETES



Cash may be king, but Avnet often finds other ways to help nonprofit organizations that are equally appreciated. A non-cash donation is frequently referred to as a Gift in Kind (GIK) and includes most non-cash items such as in-house printing, video services, furniture, software and equipment donations. It can also include services and/or skills. For example, employees can host a strategic planning session for a nonprofit board of directors, or offer coaching to the nonprofit executives on a variety of topics from marketing and sales to leadership and

decision making.

Creatively combining GIK with volunteerism can often be more valuable than cash. When Avnet Logistics saw the need Foundation Service Medical had for logistics equipment in The Netherlands, it donated a laser scanner and bar code inventory label system to help the provider of emergency medical services track inventory and medical equipment.

Foundation Service Medical, which sends out ambulances to more than 200 sports events for amateurs, children and the disabled, came to Avnet Logistics' attention through Supervisor Patrick van Vlaenderen, a paramedic who volunteers there in his free time. After observing how difficult it was for the Foundation to manually manage its fleet of emergency vehicles, he submitted a proposal requesting the equipment to Vice President Ton van Heck.



"Ambulance work is pure logistics – we need to be at the right patient, at the right time, with the right equipment and with the right amount of personnel," says Patrick. "Avnet Logistics was in a perfect position to help the Foundation optimize its stock, and I am proud to see its name come up in meetings."

Four employees reorganized the storage area and allotted bar code labels to the supply bins. Two months later, the Foundation is able to track medication, expiration dates, article numbers and serial numbers on equipment, which makes a big difference. "The new automated system not only saves the Foundation thousands of Euros that can be spent on adding more sport events to our calendar, but also allows users to spend much more time doing their essential work," Patrick says.

How has your location supported an organization with Gift in Kind donations or volunteer work? Send information to Valliere Jones for inclusion in a future issue.

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Community Partnerships

