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Local Air Conditioning contractors make COOL donation to Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium

Most times we hear about A/C Contractors in the news, it's often negative. The Rheem Team of Dealers of SW Florida are raising the bar, with charitable endeavors and community outreach.

March 30, 2011 – Ft. Myers, FL – The Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium has been educating Southwest Florida residents and visitors about nature and the environment for more than 40 years. However, recently, its age began to show and a few local businesses stepped in with a hefty donation so that the center could continue with its mission uninterrupted. Eleven local Air Conditioning contractors, all members of the Rheem Team Dealers of Southwest Florida, Inc., along with Rheem manufacturing, donated two new 7.5 ton Commercial Air Conditioning systems to the aging planetarium, including the install.

“The Air Conditioning units at the Calusa planetarium were original to the building which was constructed in 1970, so they were in desperate need of assistance,” said Ray Judah, County Commissioner District 3. “We were very pleased that the SW Florida Rheem Team was able to aid the Calusa Nature Center in their time of need, while keeping a critical community landmark up and running.”

The units had been problematic for some time and the center, which is funded primarily by donations and grants, continued to repair them as long as they could. However, with potential failure of the systems looming — estimates for replacement as high as \$90,000 — and with a newly installed and highly sensitive Media Globe II Projector recently installed, Nature Center Director Jennifer Cleary was hoping for a miracle.

The Rheem Team Dealers of Southwest Florida, Inc. is a non-profit group of local dealers who are recognized as Top Contractors for the Rheem brand of Air

Conditioning. For more than ten years the Southwest Florida Rheem Team has been using a large portion of its cooperative advertising funds to give back to the community through scholarship programs, breast cancer research, disaster relief donations, and other charitable endeavors. So, when the local Rheem Team Dealers heard that the Nature Center was having Air Conditioning problems that could result in temporarily closing their doors, the decision to help was easy.

The Rheem Team group funded and installed the two new Air Conditioning systems at no cost to the Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium. In an effort to lighten the financial burden on the group and allow for speedier completion of the project, Rheem manufacturing and its local distributor Gemaire Distributors provided the units at below cost. Suffice to say, now that the Nature Center has two new Air Conditioners and the Media Globe II, full dome, 3D projector, the Planetarium is one very COOL place in the community!

About the Rheem Team Dealers of SW Florida, Inc.

The Rheem Team of SW Florida, Inc., was established more than 10 years ago, and consists of an elite group of highly trained, customer-focused HVAC companies. Rheem Team Top Contractor membership requires that each company selected receive a certain level of training as well as meet a myriad of other criteria.

The eleven Rheem Team members include B&B Cool Air, CJ's Heating & Air Conditioning, Certified Heating and Cooling Inc., Eco Air, FL Green Team (a division of Comfort Temp, LLC), Gulf Shore Cooling, Inc., Holiday Heating and Cooling, Home-Tech, Penguin Air Cooling and Heating, Weather Control and Warnky Heating & Cooling. For more information, please visit:

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