



1541 Reynolds Rd. Charlotte, MI 48813

P: 517.543.6400

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Road Rescue Appoints Industry Veteran as General Manager For New South Carolina Plant

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CHARLOTTE, Mich., Dec. 26 /PRNewswire/ -- Road Rescue, Inc. today announced it has named Hubbard Clapper the general manager of its newly built South Carolina ambulance-manufacturing facility.

The St. Paul, Minn.-based manufacturer of custom ambulances, a subsidiary of Spartan Motors, Inc. (NASDAQ:SPAR), will finish construction on the Marion, S.C. plant in the first quarter of 2002 and is set to commence operations in second quarter of 2002. The new, 100,000-square-foot plant, which will create 120 new jobs over the next five years, will expand the manufacturing and distribution capabilities of the growing Road Rescue.

Clapper comes to Road Rescue from the American La France division of Daimler-Chrysler's Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp., where he served since 1998. Clapper was responsible for the sales and marketing efforts for emergency products-including ambulances, rescue vehicles, combination rescue/fire suppression units and specialized emergency vehicles -- in all of the states west of the Mississippi River.

A former U.S. Marine, Clapper spent 16 years in sales, management and consulting positions for heavy-duty truck manufacturers, including emergency vehicle and crane specialists, before joining Freightliner. Clapper also served as a police officer and sergeant for six years.

"With the growth of our operations in Minnesota and the opening of the South Carolina plant, we are delighted to have Hubbard join our team," said Chuck Drake, president of Road Rescue. "His wealth of experience in the industry and his proven ability in the emergency vehicle market make us confident that he will help us launch a successful plant in South Carolina."

The opening of the South Carolina plant signals a product expansion for Road Rescue, which specializes in custom ambulances. The Marion, S.C. plant will manufacture custom Type II ambulances, bolstering the Road Rescue lineup of custom Type I and Type III ambulances produced in Minnesota. Road Rescue products currently account for 30 percent of the Type I and III premium market.

About Road Rescue and Spartan Motors:

Established in 1976, St. Paul, Minn.-based Road Rescue, Inc. (<http://www.roadrescue.com/>) designs and manufactures custom ambulances. Road Rescue, which is owned by Spartan Motors Inc., produces five ambulance models, has 20 dealers in the United States and Canada, and employs more than 150 people.

Spartan Motors, Inc. (<https://theshyftgroup.com/>) is a leading developer and manufacturer of custom chassis for fire trucks, ambulances, recreational vehicles, and other specialty vehicles. In addition to Road Rescue, the Company also owns fire and rescue vehicle manufacturers Luverne Fire Apparatus and Quality Manufacturing.

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Source: Road Rescue, Inc.

Contact: Brian Edwards or Ryan McGrath of Lambert, Edwards & Associates, Inc., +1-616-233-0500, mail@lambert-edwards.com, for Road Rescue, Inc.

Website: <https://theshyftgroup.com/>

Website: <http://www.roadrescue.com/>