Lockheed Martin And White Settlement ISD To 'Make Cans Count' For Habitat For Humanity

Lockheed Martin and the White Settlement ISD are teaming up to "Make Cans Count" for Habitat for Humanity as they construct can creations in the Fort Worth factory on Oct. 26.

The can creations built by intermediate, middle and high school students will add to the existing aluminum can recycling program at Lockheed Martin. All proceeds are donated to the Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity.

Four teams of students will use the thousands of cans their schools collected during a four-week period to build their life-size creations. Eight Lockheed Martin employees are mentoring the students as they design and construct their creations.

"It's amazing how creative the kids can be," said Craig Steele, a senior engineer who serves as one of the captains for the Tannahill Intermediate team. "They're solving problems left and right, figuring out how to do things better and faster, and all the while they really understand they are helping us make a difference in the community."

The final structures -- a castle, a house, an airplane and a Hummer -- will be displayed in common areas at Fort Worth facilities to encourage employees to continue the company's can recycling efforts. About 3 million cans, equivalent to about $45,000, are needed to fund a Habitat house. To date, 11 houses across the United States have been built solely from aluminum can recycling proceeds.

Lockheed Martin has a strong tradition of enhancing its surrounding communities. In 2003, the Fort Worth plant donated $1.2 million to charitable organizations. Additionally, more than 200 employees were each recognized for volunteering more than 100 hours in 2003.

Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co., a business area of Lockheed Martin, is a leader in the design, research and development, systems integration, production and support of advanced military aircraft and related technologies. Its customers include the military services of the United States and allied countries throughout the world. Products include the F-16, F/A-22, F-35 JSF, F-117, C-5, C-130, C-130J, P-3, S-3 and U-2. The company produces major components for the F-2 fighter and is a co-developer of the C-27J tactical transport and T-50 advanced jet trainer.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin employs about 130,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems, products and services. The corporation reported 2003 sales of $31.8 billion.

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