

press release

DHL flights assist in rehabilitation of manatees in the United States

With the help of DHL, the world's leading logistics provider, the "Sea Cow Shuffle" took place in the United States earlier this month. Three manatees, Woodstock (Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden) and Pixie and Wheezy (Columbus Zoo and Aquarium), were driven to the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport to board a DHL flight to Florida, accompanied by an animal care specialist and veterinarian from the zoos.

The animals will remain under the care of manatee experts at Miami Seaquarium, SeaWorld Orlando and Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo until winter, when they will potentially be released into Florida waters near the areas where they were originally rescued. Two of the large aquatic mammals will be outfitted with satellite tracking devices to continue to monitor their health and wellbeing.

The manatee move, between October 11 and 14, forms part of an ongoing programme to save orphaned, injured and abandoned marine mammals, placing them in a critical care centre and sending them to the zoos after they are restored to health, and eventually returning them to the wild.

In this operation, DHL also transported two

MOVING MANATEES FOR REHABILITATION

The manatee move forms part of an ongoing program to save orphaned, injured and abandoned marine mammals, placing them in a critical care center like the Miami Seaquarium, and sending them to the zoos after they are restored to health, eventually returning them to the wild.

Manatees can be found in the warm waters of shallow rivers, bays, estuaries and coastal waters. They are well known for their gentle, slow-moving nature and have also been known to body surf or barrel roll when playing. They normally rest and feed often, and communicate by squealing under water to demonstrate fear, stress or excitement.

LET'S LOOK AT THE FACTS:

- Average Florida manatees weigh **800-1,200 lbs.**
- Grow up to **10ft**
- Herbivores, and eat up to **50kg** per day
- Popularly known as **sea cows**
- One skin similar to an **elephant**
- Average water temperature of **72°F**
- Manatee habitat

Population in 2010: **5,076***

Protection status: **ENDANGERED**

West Indian manatees in the United States are protected under federal law by the Florida Manatee Sanctuary Act of 1978 and Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 which make it illegal to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal. Violations of these federal or state laws can be met with civil or criminal convictions associated with monetary fines and/or imprisonment.

MANATEES ON THE MOVE

October 12, 2013

- Woodstock, Wheezy and Pixie flew from Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport (CVG) to Miami Airport (MIA)
- MIA to marine parks
- Woodstock and Wheezy moved to Miami Seaquarium
- Pixie moved to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo.

October 13, 2013

- Rae and Abigail flew from Miami Airport (MIA) to Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport (CVG)
- MIA to CVG
- CVG to zoos
- Rae moved to the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium
- Abigail moved to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Woodstock weighs about 900 lbs., and was rescued off the Southwest coast of Florida in 2011 after her mother perished during a cold spell. She arrived at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens in January 2013.

Rae weighs about 400 lbs., and was brought to the Miami Seaquarium Critical Care Unit as an orphan from Key Largo in July 2012. She was only a couple of weeks old when she was rescued, weighing 55 lbs., and was bottle-fed by Miami Seaquarium staff until she could eat on her own.

The manatees returning to Florida are scheduled to be released into the wild after being observed at the respective aquariums.

Miami Seaquarium has a Critical Care Center for manatees and this move frees up space for more manatees to be rehabilitated. The manatees moving to Ohio will grow and gain weight, and will eventually be released into the wild.

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other manatees, Abigail and Rae, from Miami to the two Ohio zoos in Cincinnati and Columbus as part of the zoos' participation in the Manatee Rescue & Rehabilitation Partnership (MRP).

Manatees can be found in the warm waters of shallow rivers, bays, estuaries and coastal waters. They are well known for their gentle, slow-moving nature and have also been known to body surf or barrel row when playing. They normally rest and feed often, and communicate by squealing under water, to demonstrate fear, stress or excitement.

“Without a doubt, manatees are one of the most charismatic creatures and certainly one of both Ohio zoos' most popular animals,” said Thane Maynard, Director of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. “We are extremely proud to be part of this conservation programme and excited to welcome both Abigail and Rae to Ohio.”

DHL provided the manatee crates that were placed in an open-top cargo crate locked into the cargo hold at each airport. The manatees were kept as far away from engine noise as possible while waiting to be loaded and their crates were loaded last, so that they could be unloaded first after arriving at their destination.

“DHL is especially pleased to be part of this important manatee transfer and rehabilitation project,” said Joe Collopy, regional sales manager at the DHL Express Americas hub in Cincinnati. “DHL Express has many years of experience successfully moving live animals around the world – all in part to contribute to the zoos' important work of protecting endangered species.”

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DHL – The Logistics company for the world

DHL is the global market leader in the logistics industry and “The Logistics company for the world”. DHL commits its expertise in international express, air and ocean freight, road and rail transportation, contract logistics and international mail services to its customers.

A global network composed of more than 220 countries and territories and about 285,000 employees worldwide offers customers superior service quality and local knowledge to satisfy their supply chain requirements. DHL accepts its social responsibility by supporting environmental protection, disaster management and education.

DHL Express was set up as a wholly owned subsidiary in Malta in 1983. It has 41 employees and operates from a dedicated logistics centre at Malta International Airport.

DHL is part of Deutsche Post DHL. The Group generated revenue of more than €55 billion in 2012.

For more information: www.dp-dhl.com

The world famous **Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden** was rated the #1 attraction locally and one of the top zoos in the nation by Zagat Survey. It was recognized by Parents Magazine as #7 on the "Top 10 Best Zoos for Kids" and has also been recognized by Child Magazine as one of "The 10 Best Zoos for Kids." Over one million people visit the Zoo's award-winning exhibits, and more than 500 animal and 3000 plant species annually. The Zoo is an accredited member of the American Zoo & Aquarium Association (AZA) and the American Public Gardens Association (APGA), and is internationally known for its success in the protection and propagation of endangered animals and plants, and engages in research and conservation projects worldwide.

The **Columbus Zoo and Aquarium** is home to more than 10,000 animals representing over 575 species from around the globe. The Zoo complex is a recreational and education destination that includes the 22-acre Zoombezi Bay water park and 18-hole Safari Golf Club. The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium also operates the Wilds, a 10,000-acre conservation center and safari park located in southeastern Ohio. The Zoo is a regional attraction with global impact; contributing more than \$1 million annually to support over 70 conservation projects worldwide. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Columbus Zoo has earned Charity Navigator's prestigious 4-star rating.

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment® inspires millions, through the power of entertainment, to celebrate, connect with and care for the natural world. The Company has been creating innovative entertainment experiences that blend imagination with nature for more than 50 years and is best known for its 11 U.S. theme parks, attractions that hosted more than 24 million guests in 2012 and include the beloved SeaWorld®, Busch Gardens® and Sesame Place® brands. The parks offer guests a variety of up-close experiences, from animal encounters that invite exploration and appreciation of the natural world, to thrilling rides and spectacular shows. In 2011 SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment began expanding its popular brands into media and entertainment platforms to connect people to nature and animals through movies, television, and digital media; plus began developing new lines of licensed consumer products.

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment is one of the world's foremost zoological organizations and a global leader in animal welfare, training, husbandry and veterinary care. The Company maintains one of the largest animal collections in the world and has helped lead advances in the care of species in zoological facilities and in the conservation of wild populations. SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment also operates one of the world's most respected programs to rescue and rehabilitate ocean marine animals that are ill, injured and orphaned, with the goal of returning them to the wild. The SeaWorld® rescue team has helped more than

22,000 animals in need over the last four decades. SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment employs more than 21,000 people nationwide.

Miami Seaquarium, South Florida's most popular tourist attraction, is a family-oriented marine-life park open to the public 365 days a year. The park provides visitors with a greater understanding and appreciation for marine life through shows, presentations and marine-life exhibits. Miami Seaquarium, a privately owned company, is an accredited member of the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums, an international organization committed to the care and conservation of marine mammals. Accreditation by the Alliance means this facility meets or exceeds all the standards of excellence for marine mammal care, husbandry, conservation and education. More information on Miami Seaquarium is available at www.miamiseaquarium.com.

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is operated by the Lowry Park Zoological Society, an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization committed to excellence in education, conservation and research. Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), and has been named the No. 1 zoo in America by both *Parents* magazine (2009) and *Child* magazine (2004). The Zoo is located at 1101 W. Sligh Avenue in Tampa, one mile west of I-275 (exit 48) and is open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, with extended hours on select nights during special events. Parking is free. For more information, visit LowryParkZoo.com. Also find the Zoo on [Facebook](#).