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For Immediate Release

ROWAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT CHAPTER OF ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS USA RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

BOULDER, CO – The Engineers Without Borders USA Rowan University Student Chapter has been named a 2011 EWB-USA Outstanding Project for their biosand project in La Ceiba, El Salvador.

The honor recognizes excellence in EWB-USA projects and highlights projects that deliver high quality, sustainable solutions to help meet the basic needs of partnering communities abroad.

“The EWB-USA Rowan University El Salvador biosand filter project is a model project for sustainability,” said Cathy Leslie, Executive Director of EWB-USA. “Their project is not only sustainable, but it is supported by the community in ways that we rarely see, with cash investments and continued growth and expansion; we are happy to honor their hard work and dedication to this community.”

The people of La Ceiba lacked the resources to implement infrastructure that provided clean water year round. Due to unclean drinking water, community members suffered from frequent diarrhea and infections and as many as 34 children have died in the last seven years as a result of contaminated drinking water. The Rowan University Student Chapter of EWB-USA, which has approximately 20 members, began working in El Salvador in 2007. They have implemented biosand filters as well as conducted community education programs and hope to keep working to provide a water distribution system and make other improvements in La Ceiba.

EWB-USA, which grew out of a project by the University of Colorado-Boulder in Belize in 2000, has more than 250 chapters, including 180 chapters on colleges and university campuses in the United States, and more than 12,000 members. EWB-USA has more than 350 projects in more than 45 developing countries around the world, including water, renewable energy and sanitation. The projects are completed in partnership with local communities and non-governmental organizations.

EWB-USA is a national non-profit humanitarian organization established to partner with developing communities worldwide in order to improve their quality of life. The partnership involves implementing environmentally and economically sustainable engineering projects, while involving and training internationally responsible engineering professionals.

About Engineers Without Borders-USA (EWB-USA)

EWB-USA is a nonprofit humanitarian organization established to support community-driven development programs worldwide through partnerships that design and implement sustainable engineering projects. EWB-USA members comprised of professional and student engineers or other disciplines, work with local communities and NGOs in over 45 developing countries around the world on projects such as water, renewable energy, sanitation and more. Time Magazine called Engineers Without Borders-USA the "Blueprint Brigade." EWB-USA has grown from little more than a handful of members in 2002 to over 12,000 members today and has over 400 projects worldwide. EWB-USA maintains over 250 dedicated chapters, including university chapters on 190 campuses in the United States, and has touched the lives of more than two million people. For more information about EWB-USA please visit www.ewb-usa.org.

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