

America's Heroes

Paving The Way For Troops Who Are Coming Home

(NAPSA)—A new program is expressing a message of gratitude to servicemen and -women across the country by helping them transition out of the military and adjust to life at home.

Belgard Hardscapes, a leading provider of interlocking pavers, paving stone and wall products, has launched the Welcome Home initiative to benefit the USO, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting, connecting and comforting American troops and their families throughout every step of their military journey.

From now until Veterans Day, Belgard will donate \$100 to the USO for every paver project installed, ultimately aiming to provide up to \$150,000 in both financial donations and in-kind services to the USO. The funds raised by Belgard will support USO transition programs that provide services ranging from résumé writing and job networking to creating a more functional home environment.

Said Jackie Paulsen of Belgard Hardscapes, “Our Belgard family is comprised of many veterans in different roles within the company and our external partners. This initiative allows us to honor those who have served and give back to those who have sacrificed so much for our nation.”

“Transitioning out of the military can be difficult,” said Christy Hartsell, USO vice president of corporate alliances. “That’s why the USO is focused on providing programs and services that give troops the tools and resources they need to transition with confidence. We are so grateful that our partnership



A new program is designed to help returning troops transition out of the military and adjust to life at home.

with Belgard gives everyday Americans a way to support troops and their families transitioning back to civilian life.”

Belgard is proud to have many veterans in owner, managerial and other roles in its company. Jason Testa, for example, is a Belgard Authorized Contractor and owner of J&C Landscaping Design and Construction in Hamilton, New Jersey. As an Army veteran who served two tours in Iraq, he feels personally connected to the initiative and has pledged to match every \$100 donation Belgard makes to the USO for his projects. Says Jason, “Having served in the military, it means a lot to me that Belgard is choosing to honor our troops this way.” The company encourages new and current contractors to join the company and the USO in their initiative to welcome troops home. Donation opportunities for these trade partners range from \$100–\$500 from now until Veterans Day.

For more information about the program, visit www.belgard.com/home.