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**Baker Hughes Donation to Susan G. Komen's National Office
October 10, 2014**

We want to respond to a news story that is making the rounds in some national press and on social media.

Susan G. Komen's national office accepted a donation from Houston-based Baker Hughes, a manufacturer of energy production products, including drill bits. This gift was an outgrowth of the relationship Baker Hughes has had with the Komen Houston Affiliate's Race for the Cure.

Baker Hughes made a flat donation to Susan G. Komen, not tied to the sale of any product or service. In an employee-led show of support, the company painted 1,000 of its drill bits pink.

Like all charities, we accept donations from a wide variety of organizations and companies that have both supporters and detractors. Banks, big-box retailers, pharmaceutical companies, faith-based groups, utility companies, unions, insurance firms, timber companies – each has admirers, and each has passionate opponents of the industry and its practices. Rather than applying a litmus test to judge “good” money from “bad”, we use all donated funds to fuel our mission to save lives and end breast cancer forever.

That said, we understand completely the offense that some have taken to pink drill bits. As a supporter of our mission, and in light of the controversy that has ensued, we would think Baker Hughes would cease distribution of these products immediately. We also ask our national organization to institute a more rigorous review process of all pink-branded product proposals right away.

Like every Affiliate, Susan G. Komen Oregon & SW Washington is a separately incorporated non-profit. We have supported thousands of survivors and their families, helped to change state laws and policies effecting breast cancer, and raised and distributed \$30 million for breast cancer research, early detection, survivor support and advocacy. Learn more about the impact of our work at komenoregon.org.

Thomas Bruner
Chief Executive Officer