FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN AN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION ACCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN

Houston, December 1, 2013 – In the past three days, three aviation accidents have blanketed the news. Occurring in Scotland, Alaska and northern Namibia, these complex events affect people from multiple countries. Distilling over 100 years of experience with international crisis management and disaster response, Kenyon International Emergency Services has compiled the following list of actions that, at a minimum, aircraft operators should plan for:

1) Establish a specific geographic location to conduct for post-mortem and, if necessary, temporary morgue operations.
2) Establish a family assistance/humanitarian assistance facility in a centralized location, such as a nearby hotel, where family members can gather to receive support and information. Support government officials with the collection of DNA samples from the family members.
3) Identify and engage an accredited laboratory for DNA analysis.
4) Support the investigation at the crash site. Once access is granted, conduct search and recovery of human remains. Conduct search and recovery of personal property from the accident site.
5) Identify the deceased. Examinations of the deceased must be conducted using international best practice and standards to determine identification. Local authorities may need to approve identifications.
6) Arrange a memorial service for the victims of the accident.
7) Arrange for the local and international repatriation of identified human remains to their families.
8) Process and return all personal property to families.

Planning for – and conducting with great care – each of these critical response plan components helps ensure that the deceased and their families are treated with dignity and respect.

About Kenyon International Emergency Services, Inc.
Kenyon is the international leader in worldwide disaster management, providing pre-incident crisis planning and post-emergency response services on behalf of the world’s foremost companies. Privately owned, Kenyon remains the only firm in its business with a hundred year history, comprehensive resources, and experience in every type of mass fatality accident including aviation, industrial and natural disasters, war and terror attacks. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, Kenyon has offices and facilities in Sydney, Australia; Bracknell, UK; Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; and Beirut, Lebanon.

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