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NEWS RELEASE

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AZUMANO TRAVEL REPRESENTATIVE MAKES HUMANITARIAN TRIP TO CUBA

PORTLAND, OREGON (NOVEMBER 10, 2009) – The United States Treasury Department has recently eased restrictions regarding travel to Cuba by Cuban Americans. For all other Americans and residents of the United States, travel to Cuba remains very restricted. One of the few ways non-Cuban Americans can travel into Cuba is for humanitarian purposes.

In October, Jason Hedrick of Azumano Travel joined a humanitarian group to Cuba where he visited churches, synagogues and community service groups to deliver much needed supplies such as medicine, personal hygiene items and school supplies. Those traveling on humanitarian and religious missions are able to travel legally under licenses granted by the Office of Foreign Assets Control branch of the U.S. Treasury Department. Hedrick was one of 22 people from all across the United States who participated in the October 2009 humanitarian mission.

“Visiting another country is always an education and this kind of humanitarian mission travel is the most rewarding travel of all,” said Hedrick, Manager of Azumano Travel’s downtown Portland branch. “By giving we get so much more in return. There’s a joy of living among Cubans that envelops you and I hope to return to take more supplies and introduce more people to this beautiful, but needy country.” Continues Hedrick, “I have had the opportunity to travel to and experience many unique cultures throughout the world. And I have to say that this visit to Cuba definitely exceeded my expectations. It was a phenomenal experience, one that I look forward to sharing with others.”

Previous Azumano Humanitarian Efforts: Following 9/11, Azumano Travel encouraged Americans to travel again by leading 1000 Oregonians to New York City as part of the “Flight For Freedom.” Those efforts helped bring life back into the crippled city’s economy. In 2005, Azumano Travel organized a “Flight Of Friendship” to Thailand as a show of support following the 2004 tsunami that ravaged that country. A second “Flight Of Friendship” was organized in 2007 when hundreds of Northwest residents traveled to New Orleans post Katrina and volunteered their services while supporting the economy through tourism. For company details visit www.azumano.com. **Note:** *Photos available upon request.*

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