



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOHN SURTEES OBE PRESENTS £75,000 TO LOCAL AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

Motorsport Legend John Surtees OBE, has presented a £75,000 cheque to local charity Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance, on behalf of the Henry Surtees Foundation. The presentation, which took place at Mercedes-Benz World, Surrey, was made to the Air Ambulance Chief Executive Adrian Bell; the money will be used for 'High Fidelity Simulators'.

Presented by John Surtees OBE, the £75,000 will be used to fund 'High Fidelity simulation manikens for the Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Trust (KSSAAT). High Fidelity manikens are the very latest in simulation technology, helping the clinical teams to practice their skills, learn new techniques and improve patient safety by creating situations that are as close to 'real life as possible.

Speaking of the charity, John Surtees OBE, said "With a background in motorsport, I know that every second counts and none more so than for the Air Ambulance Services; I am honoured to present the cheque to such a fantastic charity. The idea that this money will contribute to saving lives is outstanding! The Air Ambulance already offers an exceptional service, but if we can help them reduce risk even further then we have done a good thing!"

Motorsport enthusiast and Hollywood legend Sir Patrick Stewart, said "I am disappointed not to be present this evening. My admiration of John for his dedication to the Foundation goes without saying and I must congratulate them on the marvellous sum raised. Air Ambulances do an outstanding job and this donation will have a significant impact on their ability to respond to emergencies."

KSSAAT Charity Chief Executive, Adrian Bell said "We are overwhelmed to receive such a fantastic donation; The Air Ambulance Service is a charitable trust and without funding we are unable to deliver the service that's so sorely needed! The High Fidelity Maniken Simulators will mean we can develop our education and training programme to ensure that our crews are able to provide the highest possible care to our patients, 24 hours a day, in any situation.

Our thanks go to John Surtees for his time and effort, to the Henry Surtees Foundation for their fundraising and to Sir Patrick Stewart for his support."

As well as raising and donating £75,000 to KSSAAT for the simulators, the Henry Surtees Foundation has also previously supported the provision of a blood transfusion service for KSSAAT. This support included vital equipment such as thermostatically controlled boxes and blood warmers, and the purchase of two Honda CR-V vehicles for SERV (Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers) to transport blood, enabling the service to provide nearly 70 transfusions in its first year. The Foundation has also donated £131,000 to Headway to help people with brain injuries.

This year, both John and his machines will be at some of the most prestigious classic racing events and venues across the country, raising funds for the Henry Surtees Foundation. George Barber, owner of the Barber Museum which holds a collection of cars and motorcycles from John Surtees'

life, has made a title-winning Ferrari 158 available for these events. He has also committed to matching £50,000 with a donation, if the Henry Surtees Foundation manage to raise it.

-ENDS-

Available for interview:

John Surtees OBE, Founder of the Henry Surtees Foundation

Adrian Bell, Chief Executive of Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance

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Notes to editors:

Henry Surtees Foundation:

The Henry Surtees Foundation was inspired by motor sport legend John Surtees OBE, following the tragic death of his son Henry whilst competing in Formula 2 race in 2009 aged just 18 years old.

The aim of the Henry Surtees Foundation is to:

- Assist people with brain or physical injuries caused by accident to return to community living by the provision of equipment and facilities
- Provide education and training associated with motorsport-related programmes in technology, engineering, and road safety instruction
- A resource for young people (up to 18 years old) providing advice, assistance and organising physical and educational activities to develop personal skills so that they can participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals

For further details, please visit: www.henrysurteesfoundation.com

John Surtees OBE:

Motorsport Legend John Surtees OBE needs little introduction. Between 1956 and 1960 Surtees won seven World Championships and six Isle of Man TTs on 350cc and 500cc MV Augusta Motorcycles. Moving from bikes to Formula One cars, he drove for Lotus, BRM, Cooper, Honda and Ferrari. After winning the Nürburgring and Monza 1000km races in Enzo's sports cars, he took the Formula One World Championship in 1964 in a Ferrari 158. Winning world championships with both bikes and cars is a feat unmatched by any other racer.

Moving on again, he won the 1966 Can-Am Championship in the Lola T70 MkII – a car he helped develop. Between 1969 and 1978 he ran his own team – Team Surtees – designing and campaigning cars for Formula 5000, Formula Two and Formula One.

This year, it's the 50th anniversary of his Formula One World Championship with Ferrari, and it's his 80th Birthday, but even those two milestones don't really do justice to his achievements.

High Fidelity Simulators:

The main driver for simulation training is that it leads to reduced risk as it improves individual medical skills and overall team performance which in turn increases the quality of care and patient safety. However, the fidelity of the simulation training KSSAAT use today is fairly basic and there are a range of other key drivers that require them to improve on what they do today.

- **Changes in working practice.** The development of the service to a 24/7 operation and a more complex working environment, the adoption of new shift systems and the ever increasing advances in modern healthcare require crews to develop first rate leadership, team-working and communication skills.
- **Reduced training time.** The ability to expose crews to ever more realistic scenarios and rarer more demanding interventions can reduce overall training times and therefore increase overall efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Technological developments.** The technology to support high fidelity simulation training has progressed rapidly recently and placed it in a more affordable position for the smaller healthcare provider such as KSSAAT.
- **Public expectation.** Although the service is delivered by a charity, the public still has every right to know that the crews have been trained to the highest possible standards and would expect them to engage in appropriate high fidelity training.

In order to achieve this they are looking to purchase a complete adult and child high fidelity simulation package that will allow crews to be exposed to a variety of realistic and challenging clinical scenarios that are not presently supported. The total capital cost, including a full five year support package, is in the region of £75,000 including VAT.

Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Trust (KSSAAT):

The Air Ambulance service in Kent, Surrey and Sussex costs around £6 million annually to stay airborne. Receiving no funding from the National Lottery the charity relies almost entirely upon the generosity of the public to support the two helicopters, based at Marden, Kent and Redhill in Surrey.