



USO WORLD HEADQUARTERS
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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE USO

On behalf of the USO, I would like to extend my congratulations to the U.S. Navy for more than two centuries of dedicated service and to the men and women of today's Navy for continuing the legacy. As the Navy celebrates its 230th birthday, the USO also is celebrating its 64th year of working for America's heroes -- the sailors, Marines, soldiers, airmen and Coast Guardsmen who serve and sacrifice to protect our freedoms.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of the USO, I have had the opportunity to observe first-hand what I believe is our nation's greatest strength: the indomitable spirit on which our nation was founded -- a spirit that drives us still today. I have seen the dedication, skill and pride of our men and women in uniform in Iraq and Afghanistan and around the world as they risk their lives daily in dangerous and difficult circumstances to make the world a better and safer place for all of us. I have seen the profoundly positive impact of the military leadership on our armed forces, giving us the finest military ever fielded. I have seen the generosity of the American people in their desire to show their concern, compassion and love for our troops. I also have seen the overwhelming support of corporations and organizations for the USO, helping us to continue our programs and services for military personnel and their families.

The brave men and women of the armed forces are not only service members. They also are husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, friends and neighbors. They are fighting a fierce enemy to protect our way of life and make our world safer. They have put their dreams and families aside to serve their country, and they deserve our support, appreciation and gratitude.

Operation Iraqi Freedom presented new challenges -- for the USO, for the American people and, most of all, for our men and women in uniform. During 2003 and 2004, USO centers, stateside and abroad, employees and volunteers were challenged beyond anything we might have imagined. But the spirit that drives the USO -- to be there for our men and women in uniform -- was inspiration enough to meet the daunting demands of the last few years. We expanded existing programs and created new ones, including keeping many of our centers open for business 24 hours a day, seven days a week. New centers have opened to cater to those service members in the most dangerous regions of combat operations. Our signature programs, such as "Operation USO Care Package," continue to expand to meet the requests of military personnel. Each year, we continue to improve the quality of our celebrity entertainment programs.

The USO is a private, nonprofit organization that survives on the generosity of the American public. For more than 64 years, the USO has been there...wherever our service members are located around the world. And the USO will continue to do so, *until every one comes home.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward A. Powell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

EDWARD A. POWELL



STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ATLANTA 30334-0900

Sonny Perdue
GOVERNOR

October 11-15, 2004

GREETINGS:

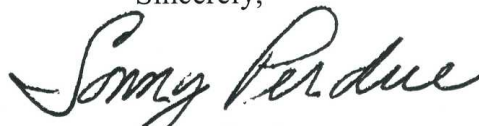
It is my great pleasure to extend best wishes on the occasion of the 26th **Sibos** convention, the annual conference, exhibition and networking event for the global SWIFT community. This year's theme is "A Time for Growth," and it signals a new energy with which to move your industry forward. While I am unable to join you in person, I am delighted to send greetings.

I am pleased to welcome to our capital more than 5,500 delegates, exhibitors, speakers and participants from across the financial markets and related fields of technology. Atlanta is a beautiful city providing many attractions, including fine dining, historic sites and various recreational facilities. I hope you have an opportunity to enjoy some of these venues while you are here and experience the hospitality that is so much a part of our everyday life.

I want to commend the fine work of *Global Banking*, now in its 16th year of publication. As in the past, *Global Banking* will address economic and political issues that affect banking and investment, as well as trends in financial technology, including transmission and securities. I trust you will find the book a "must read" that will help to keep you on the cutting edge of your profession.

Your conference is an opportunity to renew old friendships and to forge new ones, and I extend my best wishes for a productive event.

Sincerely,


Sonny Perdue

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