

# Defender Sends Rescue Boats to Thailand



*Images courtesy of the American Embassy, with the permission to use by the Embassy.*

*Image details – Left: US Ambassador Kristie Kenney with General Preophan, Commissioner General of The Royal Thai Police.*

*Right: Thailand's Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra can be seen in a White shirt on the bow of the boat.*

On Thursday, November 3, 2011, within six hours of receiving a request from the US Department of State via the American Embassy in Thailand, Defender Industries in Waterford, CT air freighted (8) 14' Defender Inflatable Rescue Boats in custom packages. The boats are equipped with 25hp and 30hp Evinrude E-Tec outboards. They were shipped along with 100 desperately needed life jackets to the Bangkok region of Thailand, which is experiencing flooding of epic proportions, has been plagued by more than four months of continuous heavy rains. Millions of Thailand's population continues to be tragically affected by flood devastation.

According to Defender Industries' Warehouse Director, Terry Hart, Defender also responded to a similar urgent request one week earlier, and shipped (8) larger boats with even greater capacity. To date, a total of 16 new Defender First Responder Rescue boats ranging from 14' to 15'5", have been shipped to the flood zone in Thailand. "We are happy that they will be available for the rescue efforts immediately upon hitting the ground in Thailand," Hart continued. Defender has also shipped over a dozen Defender First Responder Rescue boats outfitted with engines to Thailand at the request of other first responders involved in the region's rescue efforts.

"Defender is one of very few suppliers globally that has sufficient inventory of turn-key emergency response vessels and outboard engines on-hand to ship complete, an emergency Agency request to a disaster area within 24 hours," noted Stephan Lance, President of Defender Industries. He added that "This year alone Defender has provided rescue boats to dozens of Agencies, including (4) 20' RHIB Patrol boats for Connecticut Environmental Police and twenty boat and motor packages for the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and to many municipal Fire and Rescue Departments around the U.S., in addition to the shipments for the U.S. Department of State for the disaster in Thailand."

Ruggedly designed specifically for emergency rescue operations, Defender First Responder Inflatable boats were first released in 2011. Solely available from Defender Industries, Defender First Responder inflatable boats are available in four sizes: 12'6"/6 person, 14'1"/8 person, 15'5"/10 person and 17'1"/11 person. All models are available in either Hypalon or PVC fabric and feature sturdy aluminum floors. Over 100 First Responder Rescue boats have already been delivered to domestic U.S. fire, police and emergency response departments this year.

Defender Industries, established in 1938, is based in an 18-acre facility in Waterford, CT and is one of the largest global marine product suppliers. The company has on hand for immediate, same day shipment, the largest and most diverse selection of inflatable boats and outboard motors in the world. Defender supplies over 50,000 marine items from stock through its website at [www.defender.com](http://www.defender.com), its Call Center at 800.628.8225 and a large Outlet Center attached to its 110,000 square foot facility.

## Defender First Responder Inflatable Boat

