

For Immediate Release

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MTM Recognition Assists National Air Traffic Controllers Association in Recognizing the "Miracle on the Hudson" Crew and Controllers

What started out as a routine US Airways flight out of LaGuardia, now over two months ago, has become something that the world won't soon forget. "The Miracle on the Hudson" has elevated Captain Chesley Sullenberger, crew and the air traffic controllers involved, to hero status.

As part of its Annual Communicating for Safety Conference in Las Vegas, NATCA gathered to recognize their heroes, the controllers who assisted in averting disaster, and the crew who landed the wounded plane safely on the Hudson River.

NATCA chose MTM Recognition to design and manufacture these awards of heroism. "MTM has been a recognition provider to NATCA for over three years. The collaboration has allowed us to successfully improve our annual awards program through a flexible, open wave of inspiration and creativity," said NATCA spokesperson, Courtney Paquette. "With MTM's help, we have been able to grow bigger and better each year."

Annually, NATCA awards the prestigious Archie League Medal of Safety to air traffic controllers from around the country for their heroic saves. This year, additional recognition was given to the controllers and crew involved in January's successful water landing of US Airways Flight 1549. "With the help of media coverage across the country, this extraordinary event is not only one that made history, but one that spread positive feelings of success and hope through the minds of Americans," said Paquette. "Every day controllers, pilots and flight crews work hard to save lives, but are not always recognized for their efforts."

NATCA wanted the "Miracle on the Hudson" awards to convey heartfelt gratitude to the NATCA controllers and crew members involved, as well as pride in the aviation industry as a whole. These awards were to be unique in that they came right from their peers—the air traffic controllers they talk to every day over the radio; those who understand the job and extent of dedication involved.

When choosing a specific design for these symbols of bravery, NATCA was looking for something that would stand apart. "MTM went above and beyond on the design of our awards, creating an exquisite and unique piece of artwork for our event. We needed something that not only represented remarkable achievement, but something that would be noticed; something extraordinary, and MTM came through to perfectly accommodate our needs."
– NATCA President Patrick Forrey

MTM Recognition is headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, creating and implementing recognition programs that celebrate achievement, reward performance, honor service, brand and reinforce company image. MTM offers comprehensive, meaningful, memorable recognition solutions.