Volunteer Highlights: Europe, Middle East, and Africa

Budapest, Hungary
With the help of United Way Association, Lexmark Budapest connected with Burattino, a boarding school for highly disadvantaged kids in Csepel. The team used money collected from Cookie Fairs to paint and clean a large room previously used for storage. Now it has multiple functions: TV lounge/free time activity room, computer/keyboard practice space and physical education and therapy room for students with autism, including physically undeveloped kids.

In December, the team arranged a “Bring a Mug Day” and collected almost 100 mugs for the boarding school.

Orleans, France
The Lexmark Orléans team sponsored the 17th Open Tennis Handisport du Loiret in Saran, Orléans. The event is a wheelchair tennis tournament targeted toward people with disabilities. Lexmark has been a partner of this tournament for four years now, and the 17th edition was the first tournament under an international label.

Geneva, Switzerland
As part of the eco-contract signed between Terre des Hommes Suisse and the city of Geneva, Lexmark collected old cell phones. Terre des Hommes Suisse received up to 3 CHF for each collected mobile phone. The money will be used by the organization to finance development projects in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Lexmark employees in Geneva collected approximately 800 kg of clothes and shoes for Caritas in an effort to help the refugees in the region of Switzerland.

Oslo, Norway
The Lexmark Norway team volunteered at the 15th edition of the Homeless World Cup in Oslo’s iconic Rådhusplassen (City Hall Square) between Oslo City Hall and Oslo Fjord. Over 500 players representing more than 50 countries attended, in what was one of the biggest and most ambitious Homeless World Cup tournaments yet.
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Maidenhead, England
A group of 14 Lexmark employees in the U.K. put their athletic skills to the test in support of a local hospice for children. They joined together for the Lexmark UK Charity Challenge. They raised more than £7,000 (approximately $9,000, which included a corporate donation of about $2,000) for Alexander Devine Children’s Hospice Service, Lexmark U.K.’s chosen charity for 2017 and 2018.

To get to the challenge, the group traveled about 300 miles from Lexmark’s Maidenhead office to the Lake District, a mountainous region in northwest England. The 12-hour challenge included a 14.5-kilometer road bike ride (140-meter ascent), an archery competition, an 11.5-kilometer hike (560-meter ascent) and an 11-kilometer kayak in Ullswater, the second-largest lake in the Lake District National Park.