



DELTA Ministries International  
and  
Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission  
1400 NE 136<sup>th</sup> Ave Suite 201  
Vancouver, WA 98684

CONTACT: Brian Heerwagen  
(800) 533-5822 office  
E-mail: brianh@deltaministries.com

For Immediate Release

### **Two Ministries Become One**

*DELTA Ministries International and Standards of Excellence are Merging*

[DELTA Ministries International](#) (DELTA) and [Standards of Excellence in Short-term Mission](#) (SOE) have merged. Since 2003, SOE has been the unifying voice in defining best practices and the authority in evaluating all things short-term missions (STM). DELTA, a charter member of SOE and a key developer of The Seven Standards, has been assisting churches, schools, and organizations for excellent short-term mission teams since 1979. These complementary ministries are coming together to form a single organization that provides even more effective and relevant services to churches, organizations, schools, and missionaries involved in short-term missions. These include promoting best practices, credentialing members, making available cutting-edge resources, training and coaching.

DELTA and SOE are currently going by both names (think Comcast/Xfinity) until the marketing and rebranding plan is finalized and funded, but the organizations are functioning as one.

While SOE has been the unifying voice in defining best practices and the authority in evaluating all things short-term missions, it has existed with a volunteer board and part-time administrator which limited it's ability to equip and resource mission entities for best practice. DELTA, with over 38 years of experience, a myriad of STM resources, and a full staff perfectly complement SOE. **Together, the two form one organization--a flagship--carrying the banner of excellence and providing the resources and experience to fully impact the STM community.**

The new organization will continue to do what both have done best, but it will now be a coordinated effort. Those accustomed to the customized approach and distinctive teaching and training style from DELTA Ministries that has produced thousands of excellent short-term mission teams will continue to see this only it will be multiplied across hundreds of member churches, organizations, and schools.

Members of SOE who are committed to excellence for God's glory will continue to enjoy the credibility that membership brings but will also receive valued-added benefits for their membership.

Together we will see more members pursuing excellence, more STM practitioners applying [The Standards](#) to their ministry context, more teams and team leaders trained, and more organizations coached in their areas of weakness.