

FIRE & RESCUE

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A hands-on exercise reveals how fire brigades are using high volume pump units to their full potential.

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NEWS

Comment

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Ann-Marie Knegt and yes, I am Dutch by name and by nature. I take over as Editor from Jose Maria Sanchez de Muniain (who as his name suggests is half Spanish), although Jose will continue to work on *F&R* as the Managing Editor. An international team for an international publication, and that is a message we can't underline enough in this magazine, in which we aim to bring the global firefighting community together to exchange ideas and learn from each other's way of working. For instance, in this latest issue we feature Munich Fire Brigade's new fleet and a new Austrian incident command system. Foam experts from Sweden, Australia, Belgium and the US explain how AFFF and AR-AFFF foams are used in their respective countries. Other countries featured in this issue are France, New Zealand, UAE and Canada.

You will see Jose, Kelly Francis (our advertisement manager), and me all over the world during the coming year – come and say hello at the upcoming FDIC in Indianapolis (booth 6041) and visit our stand at Interschutz (C15/CCL Building).



Ann-Marie Knegt, Editor.

Kilduff named as FDNY Chief



Salvatore J Cassano has been appointed Commissioner of the FDNY.

FDNY Commissioner Salvatore J Cassano recently announced the appointment of Edward S Kilduff, as the FDNY's new Chief of Department. Kilduff has been in service for 32 years and has now achieved the highest-ranking uniformed position within New York's fire department, and has been installed as the 34th Chief of Department from January 12th onwards. Salvatore J Cassano served as Chief of Department for nearly four years, before being appointed as Commissioner.

Chief Kilduff will be in charge of the FDNY's 15,000 uniformed firefighters and emergency medical professionals; consisting of five major bureaus: Operation, Training, Communications, Emergency Medical Service, and Fire Prevention.

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Rescue kit expert opens UK office



Holmatro – a major supplier of rescue equipment – opened a new office in Nottingham on 1st January 2010. The new Country Manager of Holmatro UK is Martin Joosen, who has been working at Holmatro for more than 15 years in different positions – the most recent one being Sales Manager for Holmatro Rescue Equipment in several European countries. When Holmatro decided to set up a UK office it was a logical step for Martin to be appointed as its Country Manager. In this role he will be leading a team of experienced local Holmatro sales and service specialists who are familiar with the UK market and its clients.

Holmatro will also be exhibiting at Interschutz in Leipzig, Germany, and its stand can be found at E26 in hall 2.

Ferrara rear mounted aerial pumpers for New York

Ferrara Fire, a manufacturer of fire apparatus, has been granted a contract by the City of New York to provide the FDNY with 10 new 100' rear mount aerials. The vehicles will be delivered over a period of three years, and the bid was awarded via a competitive tender process, that took place last summer.

The vehicles are based on a Ferrara custom chassis, with a Ferrara LP 102 body, with a stainless steel split tilt cab. The Ferrara LP-102's low profile rear mount aerial ladder body is also made out of stainless steel. Because the FDNY has many historic fire stations, which typically have less space than modern buildings, the department specified these vehicles to be of narrow width, with a tight turning radius. This is also essential to accommodate the congested streets of New York City.

Chris Ferrara, CEO and President of Ferrara said that the contract was seen as very significant. "NYC will certainly be a tough proving ground, but our engineers and craftsmen are always up to the challenge."



Firefighting robots that could revolutionise response

Scientists from the Sheffield Hallam University (UK) have been working with firefighters to develop a new breed of firefighting robots, which could revolutionise the way firefighters work in the future.

The Guardians and Viewfinders are a swarm of autonomous robots that can navigate and search urban areas. They carry laser-range, radio signal, and ultra sounds sensors, which enable them to assist in search and rescue missions in urban areas, such as for instance warehouses and factories.

Jacques Penders, from Sheffield Hallam's Centre for

Automation and Robotics Research, explained: "The Guardian Robots navigate autonomously and accompany a traditional human firefighter. They connect to a wireless ad-hoc network and forward data to the operator and control station.

"The Guardians warn for toxic chemicals and provide mobile communication links with human firefighters."

The robots can also operate independently and provide an excellent overview of the fire ground and human rescue workers.

Pipe fitting makes rigid fire hoses multi-directional

A new pipe fitting which enables extra flexibility for fire hoses is now available from Greenfield-based (MA, US)

BETE.

Designed to make all rigid hosing flexible and multi-directional, whatever the pressure, the patented Variacor pipe fitting connects two runs of rigid pipe or flexible hose, or an end fitting, such as a nozzle or gun. It is a simple, but highly effective means of changing the angle of flow direction, axially between 180°

and 90°, with a full 360° swivel at either – or both – ends. Adjustments are manual, instant and can be free or lockable.

Directional change is achieved by a simple slide turn of the outlet section against the inlet section of the connector. The fitting has been engineered to ensure that the internal dimensions of the fluid passage remain constant and unobstructed by directional change, so water pressure is maintained even when flow direction or angle is changed.



NEWS

NEWS

Fire facility to open in Saudi



Rob Lane, General Manager Kidde Fire Trainers; Jörg Winkler, Director Sales Europe Kidde Fire Trainers; Ziad Al-Roshood, President FSA-KSA; James Jordano, VP Global Fire Products UTC Fire & Security

The Fire Science Academy in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (FSA-KSA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kidde Fire Trainers for the support in developing a Fire Training Facility in Jubail.

The Fire Science Academy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (FSA-KSA) in Jubail, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, will with ongoing consulting assistance from the University of Nevada, Reno Fire Science Academy Worldwide (FSAW), soon be breaking ground on its new training facility. This new facility will provide professional instruction in firefighting and disaster management for emergency responders in the Kingdom and the region beginning in 2011. It is the first of its kind organised by the private sector.

During the Intersec 2010 in Dubai a memorandum of understanding between FSA-KSA and Kidde Fire Trainers was signed to support in the development of this training centre. For Kidde Fire Trainers GmbH this is an important project that will be realised with state-of-the-art gas fueled training installation to provide the emergency responders with realistic training scenarios at highest standards for safety and quality. "Since 1979 we have specialised in the provision of computer controlled, gas-fuelled systems designed to meet a wide variety of training objectives", Kidde Fire Trainers Director Sales and Marketing, Jörg Winkler said.

"The University of Nevada, Reno Fire Science Academy (FSA), USA is a leading firefighting centre in the world and has assisted FSA-KSA by sharing our knowledge and experience in the conceptual design and operation of an exceptional training facility that, in the case of FSA-KSA, will serve the needs of industry within the Kingdom," said Michelle Baclawski, principal of the Fire Science Academy's Worldwide division. "We began a consultation partnership with FSA-KSA in 2008 and have worked to promote the development of a hands-on emergency response training facility, which is envisioned to be as comprehensive as our own Academy in Nevada."

The facility is being built by FSA-KSA in Jubail Industrial City on a 30,000m² area plot and will offer training and other emergency response and risk management services to the petrochemical, petroleum, and mining industries. According to Ziad Al-Roshood, Chairman and CEO of FSA-KSA the curriculum and instruction will be administered by the University of Nevada, Reno, and Kidde Fire Trainers GmbH from Germany, will provide the technology for the full-scale training props.

Remembering Black Saturday

Australia declared a national day of mourning in memory of the 173 people who died in bush fires across Victoria on and around February 7th 2009.

Flags across the nation were lowered to half mast to commemorate the Black Saturday bush fires.

As many as 400 fires were recorded on the day, which resulted in Australia's highest ever loss of life from a bushfire. The fires affected 78 individual townships in total and displaced an estimated 7,562 people.

In the wake of the fires, and the mounting casualty toll, there has been much debate about policies for dealing with bushfires, in particular the long-standing "stay-and-defend-or-leave-early" policy.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd joined Victorian Premier John Brumby in a multi-faith service at Melbourne's St. Paul's Cathedral, while towns in the hardest hit areas of Victoria held memorial services and community meals.

Quick release bracket for SCBA



Ziamatic has released a new mechanical SCBA restraint bracket. The Quic-Lock, model QLM-U, fits all SCBAs currently on the market (at the time of its design).

The bracket has been dynamically tested and held to over 10 Gs. It features an easy to use release mechanism. One pull on the release cord and the SCBA is completely free without any tugging or snags. All adjustments that need to be made to accommodate a different SCBA or bottle can be made to the front of the bracket without having to remove it from the seat.

The Quic-Lock uses a top clamp restraining mechanism that holds the SCBA firmly without vibration or rattling.

The release mechanism can be positioned to any location, allowing for complete versatility.

GTT updates traffic system

Global Traffic Technologies (GTT) has launched the Opticom Infrared System Model 794 LED Emitter and Model RC790 Remote Coding Unit for emergency vehicle pre-emption and transit signal priority applications.

The Model 794 emitter delivers the advantages of LED technology, including more consistent performance over the life of the product and 90% less power consumption, conserving power for other critical needs onboard a vehicle. It is designed to be used with any of the installed base of Opticom Infrared Systems, making the transition seamless for Opticom infrared users. The Model RC790 remote coding unit works with the Model 794 LED emitter, offering a convenient way to set up secure coding, perform configuration and run diagnostics. With a range of up to 25 feet, the remote coding unit eliminates the need to directly access the emitter in often hard-to-reach locations on a vehicle.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 2010

2-6 March

EMS Today
 Location: Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, US
 Contact: Jeff Stasko
 E-mail: jstasko@reedexpo.com
www.emstoday.com

16-17 March

Aerial Firefighting Vancouver
 Location: Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, Vancouver, Canada.
 Contact: Marie Kraus
 E-mail: MKraus@tangentlink.com
www.tangentlink.com

17-19 March

ISTSS
 Location: Frankfurt, Germany
 Contact: Fredrik Rosen
 E-mail: fredrik.rosen@sp.se
www.istss.se

APRIL 2010

20-24 April

FDIC 2010
 Location: Indianapolis Convention Center, Indianapolis, USA
 Contact: Nanci Yulico
 E-mail: nancy@pennwell.com
www.fdic.com/index.html

20-21 April

MIPS, Moscow
 Location: Expocentre, Krasnaya Presnya, Moscow, Russia
 Contact: Ilya Sobolev
 E-mail: ilya.sobolev@ite-exhibitions.com
www.mips-expo.com/conference/

20-22 April

BAPCO 2010
 Location: Business Design Centre, Islington, London, UK.
 Contact: Lucy Mcphail
 Phone: +44 (0) 20 7973 6401.
 E-mail: l.mcphail@hgluk.com
www.bapco.co.uk/conference/

MAY 2010

1-5 May

FireRescue-Med
 Location: The Orleans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, USA
 Contact: Mary-Jane Jackson
 E-mail: mjackson@iafc.org
www.iafc.org

JUNE 2010

7-10 June

NFPA Conference and Expo
 Location: Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, USA
 Contact: Linda Bailey
 E-mail: lbailey@nfpa.org
nfpa.typepad.com/conference/

7-12 June

Interschutz 2010
 Location: Leipzig Convention Centre, Leipzig, Germany
 Contact: Jörg-Uwe Strauß
 Phone: +49 511 89-33125
www.interschutz.de

29-30 June

Fire and Rescue Expo 2010
 Location: International Centre Harrogate, Harrogate, UK
 Contact: Gerry Dunphy
 E-mail: gerry.dunphy@ubm.com
www.info4fire.com/fireandrescue



SMOKEY: BURNING LEAVES

In what has been quite a varied career, with Smokey working in many various departments, his time spent as an instructor has proven to be one of the most beneficial and rewarding. Smokey had many responsibilities within the training establishment, delivering RTC, breathing apparatus, PPV, and CFFT training amongst several other disciplines. However, when delivering a recent crew managers course, the devil really came out in him!

The course generally consisted of theoretical sessions, and then practical application of the skills learnt, dealing with a variety of incidents as the officer in charge of a crew. Smokey and his colleagues had thought up a wide variety of scenarios to be dealt with by the up-and-coming officers, these ranged from RTC's, and domestic fires, to special service calls. For many of these scenarios locally trained thespians were required in order to adopt an element of realism. Many of these roles were as victims or casualties, others roles included; the stropky farmer who refused to let the fire service on his land; the awkward manager of an office complex who wouldn't permit the fire service into his building to deal with an AFA until the appropriate legislation and I.D. were highlighted; the aggressive drug abuser who was locked in a toilet; and the car thief who had got his hand trapped in the dashboard whilst trying to steal the radio (promptly running away when the fire service released him!).

Careful precise co-ordination is needed from the instructors, so that all students have the opportunity at least once, of being the Incident Commander (IC) and as such, there are occasional times of low activity. It was during one of these moments that Smokey spotted an opportunity!

Tom, a very good friend of Smokey, was part of the maintenance and grounds staff at the training centre. One of his duties during the Autumn was to collate and consequently burn the leaves that had accumulated around the centre. As such, he was burning off these leaves in a quiet corner of the centre's grounds. "This could be interesting and fun", thought Smokey, and not wanting to miss the opportunity, LP522 was mobilised to the "incident", the nature being, "uncontrolled burning".

The crew therefore made their way to the given location, and upon identifying the fire, quickly got the hose reel off ready to extinguish it. Of course Tom started asking what the heck was going on. He was merely doing his day-to-day job, and why did they want to put the fire out! The I.C. tried to explain to Tom that he could not leave the fire burning, and ordered his crew to extinguish it, while at the same time having to restrain Tom, (who had in the meantime "downed all tools!"). Tom was not happy, and a blazing row broke out, but of course, the I.C. thought that this was all role play, realistic as it was, and continued to flood the pile of burning leaves until it was well and truly extinguished! At the time, the whole episode was extremely amusing, however, Smokey spent much of the next hour explaining to his supervisor exactly what had happened, and humbly apologising to Tom, who, eventually, saw the funny side!

Smokey

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