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For Immediate Release

LOCAL FIRE COMPANY TO RECEIVE NEW EQUIPMENT TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY SAFETY

Linglestown Fire Co. to Benefit from Fire Simulation Tool and Personal Protection Equipment

HARRISBURG, Pa. (January 16, 2009) – Budget constraints that have been exacerbated by the recent economic downturn have forced fire companies across the country to scale back on purchasing essential firefighting tools and training equipment. But now, thanks to a \$13,897 grant, the all-volunteer Linglestown Fire Company #1 will be able to purchase a fire extinguishing training system as well as new sets of personal protection equipment.

The donation is being awarded by Camp Hill-based AmWINS Program Underwriters, Inc. and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.

The training system creates fires, allowing individuals to practice using fire extinguishers to put out flames in controlled and safe environments. Specifically, the Linglestown Fire Company will use the system to train residents and staff of businesses in the local community.

Personal protection equipment, often referred to as "turnout gear," is the fire-resistant clothing that firefighters wear when responding to incidents like fires or major vehicle crashes. The clothing protects them from exposure to chemicals, heat or flames. The gear also includes a helmet with a face shield that protects firefighters from flying debris. The new sets will replace the department's most worn out pieces.

Executives from AmWins and Fireman's Fund will officially present the grant package to fire officials and Linglestown volunteer firefighters. A demonstration of the fire extinguishing training system will be performed:

Date/Time:
Friday, Jan. 16, 2009
11:30 a.m.

Location:
Linglestown Fire Company #1
5801 Linglestown Rd.
Harrisburg, PA

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“Training individuals in the community to combat fires while awaiting emergency response will not only save property, but most importantly, lives,” said Bill Payne, Linglestown’s fire chief. “The turnout gear will better protect our firefighters during emergency incidents, which ultimately will enhance our rescue efforts.”

The grant package is part of a nationwide philanthropic program funded by Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company. The program is designed to provide needed equipment, training and educational tools to local fire departments. Since 2004, Fireman’s Fund has issued grants to over 1,100 different departments totaling more than \$20 million. In the state of Pennsylvania, Fireman’s Fund has awarded over \$600,000. Independent insurance agencies/brokers that sell Fireman’s Fund products, like AmWINS Program Underwriters, are able to direct these grants to support fire departments.

“As a resident of the Linglestown area, it brings me great pleasure to support these men and women in a tangible way,” said Keith George, managing director for AmWINS. “On a volunteer basis these firefighters risk their lives everyday, so it’s vital they have the support to do their jobs safely and effectively.”

About AmWINS Program Underwriters, Inc.

AmWINS is among the largest and most diversified wholesale insurance distributors in the country. What’s more, their brokers and underwriters represent some of the most impressive senior talent in the industry. Approaching their access to information with a different perspective and sharing ideas fluidly across business lines, AmWINS finds the answers you need, often going beyond the traditional ways of looking at your business. To learn more, visit www.amwins.com.

About Fireman’s Fund

Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal and commercial insurance products nationwide. It is rated 'AA-' by Standard & Poor’s Rating Services. Founded in 1863 with a mission to support firefighters, Fireman’s Fund continues this effort today through its national philanthropic work. Fireman’s Fund is a member of the Allianz Group (NYSE: AZ), one of the world’s largest providers of insurance and other financial services. For more information, visit www.firemansfund.com

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