

For Immediate Release

**NATIONWIDE FIRE SERVICE SURVEY TO DETERMINE
CRITICAL NEEDS IS NOW “LIVE”**

Online study is sponsored by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company

NOVATO, Calif. (Feb. 17, 2009) – A national online survey designed to gather data on the challenges faced by fire departments across the country is now “live.” Sponsored by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, the 15-minute Web-based survey is open to all firefighters and can be found at www.ipsosresearch.com/FireService or through the www.firemansfund.com/heritage Web site. The survey can be taken now through the end of March.

All members of the fire service are encouraged to participate in the survey which takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. The more people who participate, the more thorough the results will be. As a special thanks for taking the survey, all participants are eligible to receive one of 10 handcrafted, leather Fireman's Fund[®] fire helmets – a reproduction from the 1880s.

The electronic survey asks questions to gauge how the current economic crisis is affecting departments and what equipment and resources departments are lacking. Survey results will be a tool for the fire service to educate the public, as well as guide and support the grant program at Fireman's Fund.

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company has directed grants in conjunction with its independent insurance agents and employees to fire departments across the country since 2004. The company has donated more than \$21 million to over 1,000 different fire departments.

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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