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For Immediate Release

FARMINGTON FIREFIGHTERS TO RECEIVE NEW LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT

New Tools to Strengthen Department's Rescue Efforts

FARMINGTON, Conn. (April 9, 2009) – Budget constraints, which have been made worse by the recent economic downturn, are forcing fire departments across the country to scale back on buying essential rescue tools. But now, thanks to a \$14,391 grant being awarded by Colemont Insurance Brokers and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, the Farmington Volunteer Fire Department will be able to purchase a multitude of new rescue equipment.

Some items to be purchased with grant funds include:

- an automated external defibrillator (AED) used to resuscitate victims who have suffered a heart attack
- a standard hydraulic generator that can sufficiently power the department's "Jaws of Life" rescue tool, used to quickly and safely extricate victims of vehicle accidents
- a durable high-tech laptop computer to be installed in a fire vehicle and used to provide critical emergency response data
- tools that will assist the department in rescue operations that include the usage of ropes, including ice rescue incidents

"These pieces of equipment aren't luxury items—they're vital tools that will help our department better protect and serve the community," said Farmington Fire Chief Tim Vibert. "Every item has a specific purpose and fulfills a need, which ultimately will enhance our rescue efforts."

Chief Vibert and Farmington firefighters will be joined by local officials and executives from Colemont Insurance Brokers and Fireman's Fund for the presentation of the grant package. The fire department will demonstrate usage of their Jaws of Life rescue tool.

Date & Time:
Thurs., April 9, 2009
11:00 a.m.

Location:
Farmington Vol. Fire Department
76 Main St.
Farmington, CT

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“We realize the negative affects the downturn in the economy is having across the country, especially within the fire service,” said Mike Cassidy, senior vice president for Colemont Insurance Brokers. “Taking that into account, and the fact we have an office right here in Farmington, we’re proud to support this fire department in a tangible way.”

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 \$22 million. Independent insurance agencies/brokers that sell Fireman’s Fund products, like Colemont Insurance Brokers, are able to direct these grants to support fire departments.

About Colemont Insurance Brokers

Colemont Insurance Brokers is ranked among the largest specialty insurance brokers in the United States. Founded in 1992, the company is now home to over 400 insurance professionals across the country. With access to hundreds of specialty lines, markets, and programs, as well as in-house underwriting facilities, Colemont's brokers and underwriters are highly experienced at placing almost any property, casualty, transportation, or financial services risk. For more invitation, visit www.colemont.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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