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For Immediate Release

WARWICK FIREFIGHTERS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW HIGH-TECH EQUIPMENT

*Communication System Utilizes Bluetooth[®] Technology to Enhance
Emergency Scene Operations*

WARWICK, R.I. (Sept. 14, 2009) – The current economic downturn is negatively impacting fire departments across the country, but now, thanks to a grant, Warwick firefighters will have access to a technologically-advanced communications system that will enhance their emergency scene operations.

Starkweather & Shepley Insurance Brokerage, Inc. and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company are partnering to award the Warwick Fire Department a \$5,000 grant for the new equipment.

Specifically, grant funds are earmarked for a wireless communications system that utilizes Bluetooth technology. This enables firefighters to communicate effectively through the system's facepiece-mounted voice amplifier and separate communication console, which is attached to the user's two-way radio. Firefighters can communicate directly with other firefighters at the scene or to remote locations by means of a two-way radio.

"At emergency scenes, the environment can be very chaotic, which can make it hard for firefighters to clearly communicate with each other," said Warwick Fire Chief Kevin Sullivan. "The new technology will enable our firefighters to have unencumbered communications, which will provide us with added protection and enhance our ability to protect and serve the community."

Chief Sullivan will be joined by Mayor Scott Avedisian and Warwick firefighters as he demonstrates usage of the new communication system. Executives from Starkweather & Shepley and Fireman's Fund will present the grant package.

Date/Time:
Weds., Sept. 16, 2009
3:00 p.m

Location:
Warwick Fire Department
111 Veterans Memorial Dr.
Warwick, RI

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"Firefighters put themselves on the line everyday to protect residents of their community, so it's essential they have the needed equipment to do their jobs safely and effectively," said Nat Calamis, president and CEO of Starkweather & Shepley. "We're glad to be able to provide tangible support, particularly in this economy."

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 1,400 different departments totaling more than \$23 million. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman's Fund products, like Starkweather & Shepley, are able to direct these grants to support fire departments.

Starkweather & Shepley Insurance Brokerage, Inc.

Starkweather & Shepley is a full-service insurance broker with offices located throughout Rhode Island. Currently celebrating its 130th anniversary, Starkweather & Shepley provides commercial, personal auto, home, life and health, employee benefits, professional liability, and collectables insurance as well as other risk management programs. As the largest independent agency in Rhode Island, and ranked among The Top 100 Independent Agencies in the United States, Starkweather & Shepley has the resources and the experience to find solutions to your insurance needs. For more information, visit www.starshep.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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