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For Immediate Release

TWO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRE DEPARTMENTS SHARE \$50,000 GRANT PACKAGE

Riverside County Fire, San Diego Fire-Rescue Awarded New Equipment, Tools

SAN DIEGO (Feb. 5, 2008) – As firefighters from across the country gather for a major fire convention in San Diego this week, two local departments will be recognized for their efforts during the recent wildfires. The Riverside County Fire Department and San Diego Fire-Rescue Department are receiving a total of more than \$50,000 in grant money to help purchase new needed equipment.

Alliant Insurance Services, Arrowhead Wholesale Insurance Services, and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company are teaming up to award the grant donations.

Riverside County will receive a check for \$31,000 for the purchase of nearly 100 new-generation fire shelters. Firefighters use the shelters as a last-line of defense during wildfires. In cases where the fire overtakes them, firefighters are trained to cover themselves with the shelter as the fire burns over them. The new shelters are built with the latest technology and consist of multiple layers of aluminized fabric to protect firefighters against high heat for extended periods of time.

“Our firefighters deserve to have the best available equipment to protect themselves during wildfires,” said Riverside County Fire Chief John Hawkins, “and these new shelters do just that.”

San Diego Fire-Rescue is receiving a \$19,832 grant. The majority of the money will go toward the purchase of two high-tech thermal imaging cameras which are used to help firefighters “see” through smoke and flames to find victims trapped in buildings. The two devices will be based at the department's main fire station. San Diego will also purchase a new carbon monoxide detector to monitor for high levels of the gas on emergency scenes.

“Thermal imagers used to be a luxury for firefighters, but these days they're a necessity because they can be used in so many different rescue situations,” said San Diego Fire Chief Tracy Jarman. “This grant, combined with current budget allocations, will enable us to provide firefighters with critical pieces of equipment for protecting lives and safeguarding property.”

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The grant package is part of a nationwide program called Fireman's Fund Heritage[®] which is 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 hundreds of different departments totaling more than \$16 million, of which about \$4 million has gone to California. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman's Fund products are able to direct these grants to support fire stations in their communities. Alliant Insurance Services and Arrowhead Wholesale Insurance Services were instrumental in directing these two specific donations.

On **Wednesday, February 6**, prior to the keynote address by Chief Hawkins at the Firehouse World Exposition and Conference regarding the 2003 and 2007 wildfires, executives from Alliant Insurance Services, Arrowhead Wholesale Insurance Services, and Fireman's Fund will formally present the grants to Riverside and San Diego. Chiefs Hawkins and Jarman, along with firefighters from across the country, will be on hand for the grant presentation event:

Date / Time:

**Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2008
10:00 a.m.**

Location:

**San Diego Convention Center, Room 20A
111 West Harbor Dr.
San Diego, CA**

"These two fire departments were courageous in saving life and property in the 2003 and 2007 wildfires," said Molly Rondeau, chief operating officer of sales at Fireman's Fund. "Funding for local fire departments across Southern California is a growing issue and it's important we support them in getting the necessary tools, equipment and resources they need to effectively do their jobs."

About Alliant Insurance Services

Alliant Insurance Services is a premier specialty insurance broker and ranks among the top 15 largest insurance brokerage firms in the United States. Alliant Insurance Services delivers a comprehensive portfolio of insurance products and services through a network of offices nationwide and affiliate offices worldwide. For more information, visit www.alliantinsurance.com.

About Arrowhead Wholesale Insurance Services, LLC

Arrowhead Wholesale Insurance Services identifies insurance market niches and provides its agents with resourceful insurance solutions coupled with unparalleled service. It is based in San Diego and offers a number of products, including workers' compensation, professional liability, even insurance for small businesses and contractors. For more information, visit www.arrowheadwholesale.com.

About Fireman's Fund

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal, commercial and specialty insurance products nationwide. Founded in 1863 with a mission to support firefighters, Fireman's Fund continues this mission today through the Fireman's Fund Heritage program. 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. It is rated 'A+' by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services. For more information, visit www.firemansfund.com.

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