

Get your pumps powered up

Four new fire pumps have been introduced by Armstrong.

The 8x8x16 Vertical In-Line Fire Pump falls into the existing Armstrong VIL Fire Pump product line and provides extended capabilities for flows of 1,000, 1,250, and 1,500 US gpm.

The 6x5x13 and 8x6x13 End Suction Fire Pumps offer improved efficiencies and extended capabilities for the ES Fire Pump product line, for flows from 400 to 1,750 US gpm.

The 12x8x18 Horizontal Split Case Fire Pump extends the HSC Fire Pump product line, reaching flows as high as 3,000 US gpm.

All four pumps are UL and ULC listed, and FM approved.



Reach for the sky with Ascender power

The new battery powered ACC Power Ascender could be set to revolutionise rope rescue operations.

Weighing in at 18kg, this tool has been designed to attach to 11-13mm kernmantle rope for ascent or descent, and can carry an impressive 250 kg on standard EN 1891 rope. It also allows for continuous speed adjustment from 0 to 22 metres per minute in both directions, ideal also for transporting material and equipment – and a potential casualty too of course.

This “personal rope elevator” was launched in the UK only three months ago by Total Access (UK) Limited and according to Sales and Marketing Director Richard Hinckley, it has already generated much interest within a number of UK fire brigades with trials programmed over the coming months.

“The unique battery ascender was originally designed to satisfy a requirement for wind turbine climbing but the applications have expanded significantly with many industries recognising the advantages of such a safety product.”

The ACC Powered Ascender is virtually maintenance-free and only requires servicing on an annual basis. “It’s not difficult to learn to use, and training can be easily bolted onto existing rope rescue training. Simplicity in its use is the whole point.” Developments are underway to make a Power Ascender ATEX compliant, and also to develop a remote control, “We see great potential in both on-shore and off shore applications for this unique access device,” commented Hinckley.



Warrior BA for California

One of the largest municipal fire service SCBA orders ever placed in the US has been won by Sperian Respiratory Protection and its distributor LN Curtis & Sons.

The three-year contract to supply the Southern California Area Personal Area Personal Protective Equipment Consortium (SCA PPEC) includes SCBA, SCBA communication components, CBRN PAPRs and other related items.

Approximately 4,200 Sperian Warrior SCBAs and related items will be shipped to departments in the Los Angeles County area.

“During the field evaluation process, firefighters learned first-hand just how effortlessly the Warrior moved with them, providing a tremendous range of motion and manoeuvrability. With the Warrior’s ergonomic design, a firefighter gains up to 30 per cent forward bending motion, 20 per cent greater hip flexion when crawling and two times greater motion when tilting their head back”, said Jeff Shipley, Warrior Product Manager for Sperian.

Be heard in an emergency!

Stuttgart Airport Fire Department have just ordered two Mega-Voice public address systems with UHF wireless technology.

The airport fire department tested the portable PA system for a week and used it for a disaster simulation before ordering.

Mr Rudlof, Head of Technology Fire Fighting Department said it would be especially useful for evacuating passengers out of the aircraft away from danger zones.

The Mega-Voice can be heard up to between 800 and 1,000 metres away, with clear warm speech tones.

The portable battery-run system is 131 dB loud and it is used by the military and police all over the world when responding to crisis and disaster.

It was originally developed for the German military – the Mega-Voice is the loudest, lightest, clearest PA system of its kind on the world market today, according to the manufacturer. It is fully mobile, weatherproof and rugged, weighing only 10.5 Kilos.

While many Public Address systems are loud, this loudness is often reproduced with

a narrow range of frequencies resulting in an electronic sounding voice. Psychologists have shown that people do not respond favourably to being shouted at, and tend to display common responses such as “fight or flight” or simply shut down in fear rather than listen.

The Mega-Voice is available with a range of accessories enabling remote operation via extension cables or UHF transmitter/receiver. Land Mobile Radio line-in, wireless technology. Scanner available for LMR if requested.



Next generation of hazmat suits unveiled by Trelleborg

The next generation of flash protective hazmat suits has been unveiled by Trelleborg Engineered Systems.

The Trellechem VPS-Flash is fully certified to NFPA 1991-2005 and has optional chemical flash fire certification – and this has been achieved with a single skin, for better manoeuvrability and comfort.

Trellechem VPS-Flash is reusable and is made of a new patent-pending material that combines specialised rubber and plastic laminates in a woven fabric. It comes as standard with a hard visor; neoprene closure; easy don/doff bayonet cuffs; high visibility orange, and has an optional anti-fog lens.

