

Infralog

CFS Infrastructure and Logistics Update: **November/December 2010**

Hi Everyone,

Christmas is at hand and before we know it, it will be 2011. It has been a year of highs and lows, of issues and of achievements. What hasn't changed is the dedication of the team I lead, the I&L Team, who have continued to deliver exceptional outcomes for the volunteers they serve. I am honoured to work with such a dedicated and hard working group of individuals and I commend them to you.

From a personal perspective I would also like to say thanks for your ongoing support. The feedback to Infralog has been exceptional. I hope you have a safe and enjoyable Christmas season free of incidents so you can spend more time with your families and friends. I look forward to catching up with you in the new year, read on.....

Regards,
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Since the last Infralog:

VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, (V&E)

(V&E Team currently comprises Sandy Paterson, (Manager), Andrew Plush, Wayne Box and Phil Luxford. Wayne Byrne manages Leased vehicles and Command and Logistics vehicles and reports to MIL)

Recent Deliveries

Marrabel Marion Bay, Ettrick, Halidon and Lyrup have recently been provided with refurbished 34's.

New QRV's have been delivered to Roxby Downs, Wudinna, Tanunda, Furner, Birdwood and Port Broughton. Four of these are additional vehicles to the CFS fleet.

Maitland and Truro have each received a new 34.

Warranty Work

As a result of a recent widespread fault that is common we have noticed that some faults can be detected by Brigades however several months may pass before the fault is reported to the Region. This in turn can result in further damage or significant repairs being required where, if the problem was reported early, the extent of repair work required could have been much less.

Please report any problem as soon as practical.

This will ensure that appliances are in good condition for emergency responses and that CFS will not be charged for additional work if it could have reasonably been avoided with early notification. It is the users responsibility to advise of any faults in a timely manner and, where practical for an emergency vehicle, prevent the risk of further damage occurring. This situation is common with most, if not all, warranties for any goods and your assistance with this will be appreciated.

Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) "Village Pumper"

The TFS is the only agency in Australia that still builds appliances in house and most of the staff at the Engineering department where they are built are, or have been, operational fire fighters so they have a practical understanding of what is required in a fire appliance.

As a result of significant and ongoing collaboration between CFS and TFS, TFS agreed to increase their production run by one and to manufacture and supply an additional "Village Pumper" for CFS. I&L staff had previously seen one of these vehicles and were of the view that there is a place for such a vehicle in the CFS fleet.

CFS elected to stay as close to the TFS design as possible. The TFS model has a through locker in place of the work-deck but CFS asked for, and received, a half deck. Unlike similar sized vehicles in the CFS fleet this appliance carries two CABA sets and a ladder so as to provide a reasonable level of urban fire fighting capability.

The intent now is to stow the vehicle before taking it on a tour to all Regions for evaluation and feedback. (Members of the STATE V&E Committee are facilitating this).

Now for some details, the appliance is based on an Isuzu NPS300 Crew Cab 4X4 with a GVM of 6,500kgs. It has a GAAM Mk125 pump driven by a Ruggerini diesel motor. The aluminium Water tank holds approximately 1300 litres.



Eight, (8), metres of suction hose is permanently connected and stowed in the passenger side under tray locker at the rear



Class 1 multiplex wiring reduces the amount of wires throughout the body and provides for easier switching and the ability to reprogram switch operation.



A **Reversing camera** is fitted and this automatically shows the image on the dash when reverse is selected.



Two 45 degree outward facing front spray jets are fitted for fighting running grass fires, one on each side. These are selectable for left and right with each jet having an output of approximately 200 litres per minute.



Front wheel arch sprays are fitted to reduce the possibility of the front tyres igniting when working in hot areas. Sprays aren't currently fitted to the rear wheels but will be.



The crew deck on the tray is designed for one person only and is only accessible from the driver's side. The Telescopic ladder is stored on the back face of the front passenger side locker and is accessed from the crew deck. The floor is treated with a non-slip coating.



The hose reel used on the appliance for CFS is the same type as has been used on other 14's and QRV's in recent years. This reel has electric rewind with remote control and automatically lays the hose onto the drum when re-winding effectively making the operation of the hose reel a one person task.



A second "Dead reel" is fitted to provide storage for 25mm and / or 38mm lay flat hoses with rapid and easy deployment.



Two CABA sets and spare cylinders are stored in the large passenger side locker. There is also a drawer for storing related documentation and ECO board etc.



The **Class A foam tank** is built into the driver's side rear locker and can be refilled using the on-board electric pump and dip tube.



BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Work continues on addressing the contractual and procedural issues reported on in the last issue. No further updates will be provided until these are resolved.

A meeting of the COAC Building Committee was held on Saturday 13th November at the R1 office. The meeting was conducted as a workshop and focussed on the questions that need to be asked when scoping a fire station, functional requirements and building design. Further meetings will be held to progress these items in 2011.

ASSET SERVICES, (A service provided by SAFECOM)

(Project Manager Asset Services – Paul Sargent)

- **Balaklava** – A meeting was held with Council to discuss their concerns with the lease boundaries. All matters have now been resolved and an amended lease Plan has been forwarded to Council for approval
- **Binum** – A meeting was held with Council on the 22 October 2010 to discuss access needs for their water tanker and proposed location for bore. As a result an amended layout plan was prepared and presented to the Council for approval. Council has now advised the amended plan is acceptable and finalisation of all details can now be progressed.
- **Birdwood** – Approval has been for a monthly tenancy for the former Transport Depot site on an on-going basis until a long term use is determined for the site. The site will be used for training purposes only.
- **Blewitt Springs** – The Onkaparinga Council is yet to respond to the draft licence for Council access through the property to the abutting Reserve.
- **Brinkworth** – Comments to the draft lease have been received from the lessor. Comments have been forwarded to the Crown Solicitor so the draft can be amended.
- **Callendale** – A request has been forwarded to Crown Lands seeking their approval for a toilet to be constructed on the site.
- **Coromandel Valley** – The consolidated updated Agreement has been received from Telstra and was forwarded to the Crown Solicitor for review. A response to Telstra is currently being prepared.
- **Concordia** – No progress on Licence Waiting on Barossa Council.
- **Coonalpyn** – A meeting was held on site with the Coorong Council to discuss a proposed new site for the Coonalpyn brigade. While the site was deemed acceptable to the CFS a request to Crown Lands to approve dedicating the site to the Minister has been refused on a number of different grounds including a prior registration of interest by the Council. No further action can be taken at this stage until Councils interest has been finalised.
- **Delamere/Rapid Bay** – The Contract for the purchase of land has been signed by all parties. The Application for approval of the subdivision has been lodged with the Development Assessment Commission

- **Gawler River** – A meeting was held on the 13 October 2010 with both Council and Crown Land's representatives to discuss the subdivision and leasing of the CFS Gawler River Station Site. All parties agreed to work together to provide a site for the CFS.
- **Happy Valley** – The Lease for the Council Implement Shed is with the Minister for execution.
- **Hynam** – Negotiations have commenced with the Naracoorte Lucindale Council in relation to the CFS gaining permanent access to the existing toilets behind the Hall. Issues with the current dedication of the site to the Minister for Emergency Services are part of the negotiations. At this stage the Hall & toilets appear to have been dedicated to the Minister in error.
- **Iron Knob** – OneSteel's solicitors are working through legal issues before the lease can be finalised. It is anticipated the lease will be available soon.
- **Kyeema Group Centre** – Signed Lease has been returned from the Minister. Process now complete.
- **Kybybolite** – Discussions held with the Council on the 22 October in relation to their access needs for the water tanker and proposed location for bore. Similar design to Binnum is being considered.
- **Lochaber** - A request has been forwarded to Crown Lands seeking their approval for a toilet to be constructed on the site.
- **Mil Lel** – The Draft Lease has been forwarded to the Lessor for comment. No response has been received at this stage.
- **Morphett Vale** - The Brigade have provided a draft plan for consideration for the construction of a mezzanine floor within the current Station. A risk assessment is currently being undertaken before a response to the brigade's questions is provided.
- **Mount Lofty Fire Tower** – No progress at this stage.
- **Mount Gambier** – Still waiting for Forestry SA response to the MOU.
- **Mount Torrens CFS** – Potential issues with Council regarding Building design still need to be resolved.
- **Mylor** – The Brigade is currently seeking quotes and advice from various builders - architects in relation to proposed extensions to their station.
- **Orroroo** – SAAS has been advised no additional land will be provided at this stage. The boundary realignment is currently being progressed by Crown Land.
- **Parndana** – Negotiations are being undertaken between the Kangaroo Island Council, Crown Lands and the CFS to obtain land at the Parndana oval for the construction of an appliance bay to store spare appliances. *(A number of appliances are prepositioned on the island to allow rapid deployment of crew only support from the mainland in the event of a major incident occurring.)*
- **Piccadilly** – Lease has been signed by all parties and is now being finalised.
- **Port Lincoln Land** – The contract for the sale of the land is in the process of being signed by the Minister and the purchaser has paid the first option payment.
- **Salt Creek** – Crown Lands have advised tenure for the site will be by letter until a number of legal matters can be dealt with. A meeting was held with SAAS to discuss repairs to existing building and the proposed layout for new appliance bays. Issues are being addressed.
- **Sherwood** – Approval has been sought from the owners for additional land behind the current station to be added to the lease for the construction of a toilet for the brigade.
- **Spence** – An amendment to the existing licence to allow for the establishment of a toilet and soakage trench is currently being drafted.
- **Stewart Range** – Alternative sites have been suggested to the Regional Commander to consider.
- **Stirling** – An adjacent neighbour has approach CFS to be able to use the Station land for the delivery of an in-ground pool. Notices have been provided to the Kindergarten and approval has been arranged for the contractor to deliver the pool as required.
- **Taratap** – Still waiting for owner to return the new lease agreement for the current site. A follow up letter requesting their return has been sent.

- **Two Wells** – GRN has provided CFS with a draft MOU for consideration for the continued use of the Two Wells Tower.
- **Region 6 Fire Sheds** –Buckleboo, Cockaleeche, Sceale Bay, Karkoo, Rudall and Tuckey documentation are being progressed.
- **Region 6 Fire Sheds – Mount Hope** – Alternative site is being progressed with Planning Approval.
- **Western Districts** – The Western Districts Sports Club has confirmed it is still happy with the proposed arrangements for the CFS to relocate to the Oval. Legal documentation is now being prepared.
- **Wilmington** – Construction has been temporarily put on hold due to contractual issues. Council has been slow to respond to issues regarding formalisation of the proposed lease but this has no bearing on contractual issues.
- **Wharminda** – The Lease has been sent to the Wharminda War Memorial Hall committee for signing.

PT Hydraulics has completed its Lukas RCR equipment service run covering the Riverland, Mallee and SE area.

A tender call for the station condition audit is being progressed. Data collected will also be used to populate the whole of government SAMIS system.

A review of existing Road Crash equipment is being undertaken as to identify the highest priorities for replacement of equipment as part of this year's budget.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(CFS Telecommunications Team - Manager Telecommunications – Mario D'Agostino and Telecommunications Support Officer, Marilyn Hughes)

The focus for the new Manager Telecommunications over the past month has been on gaining an understanding on how CFS operates, the issues that exist, our needs and any concerns people may have. Visits have already been made to Region 1, 2 and 3 and the remaining 3 regions will be visited in the near future. Meetings with our supplier base have also commenced so that a better understanding of what they have to offer and what support they can give us during a major incident is achieved. Suppliers visited to date include Tetracom, Australian Satellite Communications Pty Ltd, Vita Com and Telstra.

Manager Telecommunications attended the Radio-Comms Connect 2010 conference which had in excess of fifty exhibitors with the latest technologies, products and services on display. The conference also provided the opportunity to hear from industry subject matter experts. The future for radio is changing at a great rate at the moment and this was a great opportunity to gain an understanding of what is occurring in the world of telecommunications.

The Rollout of digital capable radios in Region 3 started on the 15th November 2010 and is running on schedule and as predicted. All things going as planned the rollout will be completed just before Christmas.

MANAGERS UPDATE

Command and Logistics Vehicles

As stated in the last Infralog, Government has provided funding in the recent budget to allow CFS to purchase, own and operate its own Command and Logistics vehicles. A consultative committee has since been formed to make recommendations to COAC on what vehicles are appropriate. The Committee comprises four volunteers nominated by the CFS Volunteer Association, Three Regional Commanders, (R1, 2 & 6), the CFS Leased Fleet Project Officer and MIL.

At the first meeting of the consultative committee it was agreed that the following should be the basis for consultation:

- Lifespan for CFS owned Light Fleet to be ten, (10), years.

- Both Command and Logistics vehicles to be crew cab 4x4 utes specified with automatic transmission, cruise control, towbar, central locking, driving lights and standard OEM fuel tank.
- Only one model of vehicle to be purchased.

It was further agreed that:

- Comparative pricing will be obtained for ute vs. tray-top, canopy vs. tonneau cover and aluminium vs. steel vs. 'Polybar' bull bars.
- Options for fitting radios, (2 x GRN, 1 x VHF and 1 x UHF CB), to be investigated including the use of overhead consoles if necessary.
- CFS has an immediate need to replace 30 Command vehicles and two Logistics vehicles and availability of vehicles will need to be a consideration.

Feedback received indicated that whilst some people would accept a crew cab ute as a Command vehicle the preference is for a station wagon so as to ensure there is no dust sealing issues and for better rear seat legroom. There was ongoing support for the crew cab ute to be used for Logistics vehicles.

Based on feedback received to date CFS is looking at options it can deliver from within the allocated budget including the possibility of purchasing the vehicles we currently lease. This issue will be discussed further at COAC on Monday 13th December and by the working group on Wednesday 15th December.

Intent and use of Infralog

Infralog has now been published for eighteen months. I&L staff prepare it with the intent of providing an insight into the work being done by I&L and to provide factual updates to CFS volunteers on what is occurring in the I&L department. **It is something we choose to do, not have to do.** The end result is a publication that has been embraced by CFS volunteers and that has a readership which continues to grow.

In recent times the contents of Infralog have been referred to in Parliament and in press releases. Whilst Infralog is a public domain document its contents are not, and never have been, intended to be used for political purposes. Unfortunately such use has increased the administrative burden on I&L staff and this may lead to the eventual demise of Infralog as our focus need to be on supporting the volunteers we serve.

Prepared by,

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(Feedback, both positive and negative, is encouraged and welcomed)