

For Immediate Release

DALLAS FIRE-RESCUE PURCHASES SMOKE DETECTORS FOR PERSONS WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENTS

Smoke Detectors Made Possible with grant package

DALLAS (Dec. 5, 2007) – Colemont Insurance Brokers and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company will award a \$25,000 grant to Dallas Fire-Rescue for the purchase of 231 single station smoke detectors for persons with hearing impairments.

The portable photoelectric single station smoke detector, with an audible battery backup is designed to give reliable early warning of the presence of smoke and features an audible alarm and a strobe light with fire lettering. During the alarm period the strobe will flash a constant bright light and will revert to the normal stand-by condition once the smoke has cleared from the detector.

“Many with mild or moderate hearing loss will not wake to typical smoke alarms that contain a small, high pitched speaker which can be difficult to hear,” said Assistant Fire Chief Debra Carlin. “The newly purchased smoke detectors are superior in waking people during a fire because of its power and low frequency.”

According to the United States Fire Administration (USFA), there are 11 million deaf or hard of hearing Americans who are unable to rely on the life-saving warning sound of a working smoke alarm to alert them of fire.

“As fire service professionals it is our job to save as many lives as possible,” said Chief Carlin. “We are extremely grateful to Colemont and Fireman's Fund for allowing us to provide this much needed equipment to the hearing impaired throughout Dallas.

Dallas fire prevention officers, representatives of Colemont and Fireman's Fund® will come together for a special public recognition event where the grant package will be presented along with installation of a smoke detector:

Date / Time:
Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007
10:00 a.m.

Location:
9405 Sugarberry Road
Dallas, TX

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“As an international company based in Dallas, we are committed to supporting our home community,” said Todd Teitell, president of Colemont. “We’re proud to be able to help in such a meaningful way, knowing that residents with hearing impairments will benefit from such an important piece of equipment.”

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 \$14 million. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman’s Fund products are able to direct these grants to support fire stations in their communities. Colemont was instrumental in directing this specific one to Dallas.

About Colemont Insurance Brokers

Founded in Dallas in 1992, Colemont Insurance Brokers is one of the largest specialty lines wholesale insurance brokers in the United States. Colemont has offices in 13 foreign countries along with regional branch offices throughout the US. Specializing in property, casualty, financial, healthcare, professional services, worker injury, and transportation, Colemont works exclusively through select retail insurance agencies. For more information, visit www.colemont.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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