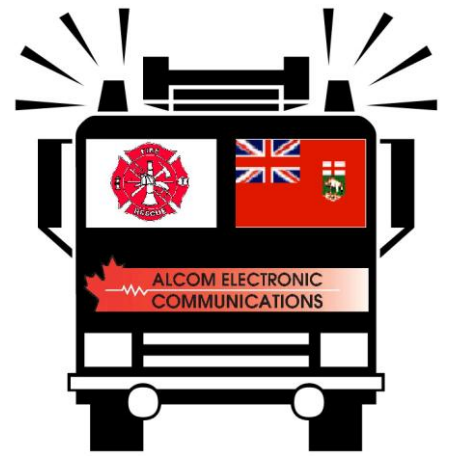


FIRE SERVICE RADIO NEWS

January 2014



RM of Piney Expands Fire Department – New Fire Hall Added in Woodridge

Beginning in mid-January, the residents and businesses in Woodridge, and the surrounding areas of the Rural Municipality of Piney, will be served by 21 enthusiastic and committed volunteer firefighters based out of a new fire hall located in Woodridge. The RM of Piney, which covers 2400 square kilometres and has a population of over 1700 which grows in the summer by at least 25%, has been served by two fire halls located in Sprague and Piney. With a minimum thirty minute drive from Piney to Woodridge, it has long been recognized that providing fire protection for the northern part of the municipality was a challenge. The prevalence of fast spreading wildfires in recent years has made this challenge all the more significant.

With the opening of the new fire hall the RM of Piney will have some of the most comprehensive fire protection coverage in the Province. For property owners within 13 kilometres of Woodridge this could lead to substantial savings on insurance rates.



Community Commitment

The combined commitment, of the municipal council and the community, took shape starting in March of 2013 when, after a decade of on-and-off discussion, a community meeting was held at which 28 community members filled out applications to become firefighters. According to Piney CAO Martin Van Osch, the volunteers coming forward was fundamental to getting the project off the ground. The council had made the new fire hall part of a five year plan, but it was recognized that it would only be feasible if the community members made a commitment. "The community really stepped up to the plate" said Van Osch, when asked how the projected got rolling.

The volunteers met every two weeks for training sessions while the planning for construction of the new fire hall moved into high gear. By the end of May the site was being cleared for construction and by August concrete forming was underway and a Fire Chief, Troy Pestrak, had been selected by the volunteers. The new building, modelled after the Reynolds fire hall, provides 3600 square feet for apparatus, office and a training area. The fire hall will begin operations with a full complement of 21 volunteers, one pumper and one rescue truck. The municipality is also in the process of purchasing a 3000 gallon tanker to be stationed in the Woodridge fire hall.

Communications Solutions

Alcom installed a Motorola ASTRO XTL1500 base station with a Sinclair SY406 Yagi antenna mounted at the 50 foot point of the tower. The Yagi antenna, pointed right at the FleetNet tower, provides 10dB of gain over a 50 degree beam width. This solution was put in place to ensure consistent FleetNet coverage at the new fire hall.

In addition to supplying a fleet of new Motorola pagers and VHF two-way radios, Alcom was asked to develop a solution to extend the existing paging system to serve the firefighters based out of Woodridge. Woodridge is at the very margin of the coverage area from the existing paging system, based in the town of Piney, making pager reception marginal at best. Alcom configured a parrot repeater system for installation at the Woodridge fire hall and the municipality invested in a 100 foot tower at the site. By connecting the parrot repeater to an antenna at the top of the new tower, it is possible to pick up a clear signal from the paging system in Piney and repeat it out to a coverage area with a radius of approximately 20 kilometres.



30th
Anniversary



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FIRE SERVICE RADIO NEWS

January 2014



What is IMPRES™ and Why Does it Matter?

You want to be sure you get the most out of every battery by maximizing its life. With IMPRES you can. IMPRES batteries and chargers have the capability to exchange data allowing the IMPRES charger to evaluate the usage pattern of an IMPRES battery and determine the optimum reconditioning interval, thus optimizing battery life.

IMPRES vs Aftermarket Batteries:

Conventional batteries and chargers do not offer these advantages. Normal chargers apply constant power to the battery in an effort to keep it charged. The result is long-term heating that can damage the battery and result in lost capacity. In emergency response scenarios this creates a very dangerous situation. You may think you have a fully charged battery, but when you get on scene you discover that some batteries last only a short time. This puts on-scene communications at risk and that, in turn, can put lives at risk.

IMPRES batteries are available only from Motorola and come standard with most of the Motorola radios used by emergency services agencies in Manitoba. When you need to replace your batteries it is important to replace them with IMPRES batteries from Motorola. Aftermarket batteries typically cost less up front. But in the long run they cost much more because they have a shorter usable life and can result in safety being compromised when they do not perform as expected at a critical moment.

Long-Term Safe Charging:

IMPRES chargers automatically turn off at the end of a charge cycle yet continue to monitor IMPRES batteries every five minutes to determine when more energy should be applied. This ensures that the battery maintains a very high state of charge without sustaining heat damage. IMPRES batteries can be left in their IMPRES chargers for extended periods without heat damage. If radios are left in the charger there is no worry about shortening the battery's life.

Chargers That Communicate:

IMPRES multi-unit chargers are available with a two-line display module giving you access to valuable information such as battery capacity, voltage, time remaining to complete charging, current battery charge status, unique serial number, part number and chemistry.

Knowledge is power. Now you can make informed

decisions on battery replacement. With non-display chargers there is still valuable information about the status of the battery available from the LED display. When the time is approaching that you need to replace your battery the LED display on the charger will display a flashing green and red indicator. This warning will act as a preventative so you don't get caught out with an exhausted battery.



Display shows battery capacity, voltage, charge status and more, in real time.

Proven Tough:

IMPRES batteries are subjected to the same rigorous testing and held to the same high standards as all Motorola Premium batteries. Actual results of Drop, Vibration and Electrostatic Discharge tests prove that Motorola batteries outperform the competition.

Extended Warranty:

When used exclusively with IMPRES chargers, IMPRES batteries carry extended warranties six months longer than Motorola Premium battery warranties.



**YOUR BATTERY
HAS ONE JOB:
TO KEEP
YOUR RADIO
WORKING.**



Motorola batteries.
Proven Tough.

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE



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