



Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies  
777 San Marin Drive  
Novato, California 94998  
T. 415.899.2000  
www.firemansfund.com

**Contact: Kelly Beloit**

**T: 206.226.3118**

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**For Immediate Release**

## **CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE RECEIVES \$6,000 GRANT FOR INCIDENT RESOURCE INVENTORY SYSTEM**

*System will Tie Together Local, State and  
Federal Resource Information in Real-Time*

ORINDA, Calif. (Sept. 24, 2008) – Argo Insurance Group and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company will award the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District a \$6,060 grant to enhance and grow the county's Incident Resource Inventory System (IRIS).

IRIS will allow mutual aid participants in the region to post, in real time, available and committed mutual aid resources to a secure web site. This will replace several manual reports currently used and will expedite coordinated response to major events, such as recent wildfires in Northern California.

“Using a program developed by FEMA, this system will tie together local, state and federal resource information that will then be available in a timely manner for emergency management and response,” said Fire Chief Keith Richter. “This specific grant will be applied to phase two testing and implementation.”

“We can't think of a better way to support the community,” said Bill Ferree, vice president of Argo Insurance Group. “Finding extra money in the fire budget to purchase this type of a system is never easy, which is why it's so important for the local community to come together to help firefighters get the things they need.”

Fire officials, Contra Costa County firefighters, local dignitaries, and representatives of Argo Insurance Group and Fireman's Fund will come together for a special recognition event where the grant package will be presented:

**Date / Time:**  
**Thursday, September 25, 2008**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**Location:**  
**Contra Costa County Fire Prot. Dist.**  
**2010 Geary Rd.**  
**Pleasant Hill, CA**

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The donation is part of a nationwide philanthropic initiative 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 given more than \$19 million to over 1,000 different departments. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman’s Fund products are able to direct these donations to support fire stations in their communities. Argo Insurance Group was instrumental in directing this specific donation to Contra Costa County.

**About Argo Insurance Group**

The Argo Insurance Group, a Green Certified business, is a preeminent San Francisco Bay Area insurance broker offering commercial and personal insurance, as well as employee benefits. With over 30 years in business, Argo provides clients with innovative insurance and risk management solutions across many industries including real estate, construction, hospitality, publishing and health care. For more information, visit [www.argoinsurance.com](http://www.argoinsurance.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. Allianz ranks as the most sustainable insurer in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index based on its economic, social and environmental performance. For more information, visit [www.firemansfund.com](http://www.firemansfund.com).

**About the Fire District**

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District is a full-service fire agency that provides fire and emergency medical services to 600,000 people across a 304 square-mile area, including nine cities and many unincorporated areas. For more information, visit [www.cccfpd.org](http://www.cccfpd.org)

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