

Wildland fire fighting pumps increasingly compact

As technology advances and research and development brings new and improved features to the fore, fire fighting pumps are becoming increasingly light and compact making them more efficient for fire-fighters to transport and utilise.

According to Stuart Hagell, Fire Equipment Officer, Parks & Wildlife Service, Tasmania, "We've been using GAAM Emergency Products' Wajax pumps to protect our forests for more than 20 years. The Wajax Mark-3[®] fire fighting pumps are incredibly high pressure pumps with a phenomenal range (up to 2 km on flat ground) and still have useable water pressure. We have about a dozen throughout the state and they're an essential part of our remote fire fighting operations. Our remote fire kits are slung under helicopters so it's vital that the pumps inside them are as light as possible. We're continually testing a variety of pumps to ensure we're using the best and the Mark-3[®] certainly suits our requirements."

The Mark-3[®] is a lightweight pump developed specifically for forest and land managers and is the strongest performing centrifugal fire pump of its type. Just 27 kilos in weight, the pump is a reliable, compact system which can easily be transported in fire-fighters' backpacks and is an essential part of any fire fighting kit.

Designed to withstand the rigors of bush fire fighting, the Mark-3[®] adapts to all standard couplings, reaches pressures of 2600kPa and has a free flow of 370 litres per minute. It is easily integrated into any existing operation and has become the standard wildland fire pump around the world, conforming to the USDA Forest Service Qualified Specification 5100-274C.

Key features of the Wajax Mark-3[®] include:

- US Forest Service approved spark arrestor
- Fuel line with quick-connect handle
- Fuel air transport tank 5.3 US gals (20L) FA-552Q or GSA model fuel tank and fuel line
- Rubber protection caps
- Foam and retardant solutions pumping capability
- Rugged powder coated steel frame
- Service manual and parts list MANPL-MK-3E
- Operating manual and tool kit

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About GAAM Emergency Products

GAAM Emergency Products is part of Tyco Fire & Security Australia/New Zealand, a division of Tyco International's Fire & Security Division. GAAM specialises in the emergency services market. Since 1933, Australian firefighters have relied on GAAM equipment to safely go about their daily operations. GAAM manufactures and distributes a range of petrol and diesel powered firefighting pumpsets and accessories. While based in Melbourne, GAAM also has offices in Sydney, and conducts business throughout Australia and New Zealand. www.gaam.com.au