



IAS Continues to Make Safety a Priority

MONTICELLO, IA - - Innovative Ag Services, with the help of matching funds through the Land O' Lakes Foundation, has donated a total of four grain rescue tube systems to the Steamboat Rock, Elkader, Cuba City, WI and Hazel Green, WI Volunteer Fire Departments. These types of donations make a significant impact to the community and Emergency Response Agencies' ability to respond to specific rescues.

The rescue tube systems and accessory equipment were purchased for approximately \$3,000 total per system from Outstate Data in Minnesota and were then donated to the Steamboat Rock, Elkader, Cuba City, WI and Hazel Green, WI Volunteer Fire Departments. This completes Innovative Ag Services' effort to make sure all fire departments in their communities have the necessary equipment to help our employees and customers in an emergency situation. Over the past few years, IAS has helped donate 19 grain rescue tube systems to area fire departments. Each of these fire departments has also received training at an IAS location on how to properly use this equipment in the case of a grain accident.

The rescue tube system consists of 2 five panel tubes (ten total panels), allowing them to fit through a small hatch. The panels are then assembled around the victim to stop the flow and pressure of the grain. The grain is then siphoned out from around the trapped individual and they are slowly extracted. In effect, they are portable cofferdams.

According to Purdue University, in the first 10 months of 2010 there were more reported grain entrapments nationwide than in any year since 1978. There were at least 46 entrapments with Iowa ranking 3rd highest with five reported.

Innovative Ag Services is an agricultural cooperative with core businesses in grain, agronomy, feed, energy and building supply. IAS employs over 386 full and part-time employees at 35 locations which are scattered throughout northeast and north central Iowa and southwestern Wisconsin. IAS continues to support local projects which impact its members and employees and provides a benefit to the entire community.

INCLUDE PICTURES ON NEXT PAGE



Cuba City Fire Department works with Innovative Ag Service Employees and Dale Ekdahl of Outstate Data, LLC to train with the Grain Bin Rescue Tube

Gerald Severson, IAS Location Manager, helps train the Elkader Fire Department on how to use the grain rescue tubes.



Hazel Green Fire Department learns how to use the grain rescue tubes in an emergency situation



Chris Balvanz, Steamboat Rock Location Manager (left), shakes hands with Kenny Primus Steamboat Rock Fire Chief as Grain Rescue Tubes are donated.

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