



27 October 2009

## MFB fire truck sets sail for Samoa

In response to the recent tsunami, a fire truck is being donated by the Metropolitan Fire & Emergency Services Board, Melbourne (MFB) and shipped to Samoa to replace one destroyed during the tsunami.

MFB has prepared a Scania Mark III pumper tanker to replace the destroyed water tanker, and with the assistance of Emergency Management Australia (EMA) and AusAID, the fully equipped firefighting appliance will be shipped to Samoa.

**The MFB truck will depart Sydney on a Royal Australian Navy ship today, Tuesday 27 October, from HMAS Tobruk, Fleet Base East at 10.00am.**

The destroyed truck that it will be replacing was donated over five years ago by the MFB. This is part of MFB's longstanding relationship with the Samoa Fire and Emergency Service Authority (SFESA), which commenced early in the 1990s.

"The MFB is proud to have this partnership arrangement with Samoa, and supported by Pacific Island Fire Services Association, the MFB is committed to ensuring the SFESA has every opportunity to provide a quality emergency service to the people of Samoa," said Deputy Chief Fire Officer (DCFO) Keith Adamson.

"Over the years the MFB has provided strategic planning, logistical support and operations training to the SFESA in the form of firefighter recruitment and officer development programs, plus support with the development of the SFESA Act and corporate action plan.

"Prior to the tsunami, an MFB officer travelled to Samoa to conduct a needs analysis of the Samoan fire service, resulting in the development of a three year assistance program including providing fire safety assistance, Urban Search and Rescue training, and officer development opportunities.

"We look forward to continuing our support for the fire services of our Pacific Island neighbours wherever possible," DCFO Adamson said.

This vehicle is one of three that will be donated by the MFB over the next three years.

**Pictures of the fire truck ready for despatch to Samoa are available. To obtain the pictures or for further information please contact:**

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