

## Fire Services Develop Innovative Procurement

### LFB & GHENT PILOTING OF INNOVATION IS UNDERWAY



#### Hammersmith gets FIRED-uP

Hammersmith Fire Station is one of London's busiest, and the only one which covers ground on both sides of the Thames. The station was selected for the pilot of the new systems being developed as part of the [FIRED-uP project](#), which aim to improve the management of pumping appliances (fire engines) and the resources they use.

Following the procurement process which took place in 2014, two companies were appointed to develop and install data collection systems on a pumping appliance based at Hammersmith.

The first company, JV Facility Ltd, is responsible for tagging all equipment items with radio frequency identification (RFID) technology, to assist in inventories and replacing/maintaining equipment. The tags are read via antennae which have been installed within the vehicle's lockers, with data displayed on a tablet. This allows crews both to complete their routine checks and to identify any items which are missing. It also allows them to accept replacement items and confirm that they have an up-to-date service record.



During the installation phase, a number of technical challenges had to be overcome by the contractor.

*"One of the biggest challenges has been bringing technology that has been commonly used in a warehouse environment to a single vehicle and expecting the same results. This challenge, combined with the difficulty in reading through various metals, has meant that we have had to try many different things to achieve the desired outcome" according to Alison Jacques, JV Facility's Service Director.*

She added "We have spent a lot of time researching the best equipment to use in this environment, from RFID tags to fixed readers and antenna. We have tried many combinations of tags and antenna orientations to achieve the desired outcome and will continue to monitor and make changes where necessary throughout the pilot. The challenges will continue to come but I am confident that the entire project team will work together to create a solution that can be rolled out on a larger scale."

The system is being piloted to determine its suitability for broader roll-out across LFB's fleet, and to identify the benefits in terms of operations, environmental footprint and cost savings. Crews are being asked to provide feedback on their use of the system and any areas for improvement. Several other UK brigades have already expressed an interest in the system, which can be purchased via a framework agreement accessible to all Fire and Rescue Services across Europe.

*Each pumping appliance carries 220+ items of equipment*



Supported by



#### Date for your diary

##### FIRED-UP FINAL CONFERENCE LONDON 2015

7th July  
Evening Reception at  
City Hall –  
London Living Room

8th July  
Demonstration Day at  
LFB Headquarters,  
Union Street, London

For full programme  
details and to register,  
visit our [website](#)

### LFB data collection on pumping appliance



*Hammersmith crew gets to grips with new flow meters*

At the same time, Airwave Solutions Ltd. is working with MiX Telematics to deliver a full suite of reports on how the pumping appliance and its systems are being used. This data is drawn from sensors which connect to the vehicle's electrical system and measure engine use, fuel consumption and flow of water to and from the pump, as well as the more traditional records of routes taken and journey times.

This information is expected to make it easier to manage LFB's fleet and to ensure the safe and efficient use of vehicles for the various activities they carry out.

The pilot will run until June 2015 and during this time the systems will be continuously monitored and adapted as necessary.

In July 2015, LFB will host an event to present the results of the pilot and demonstrate the systems to fire and rescue services from the UK and abroad. This event will also be attended by the City and Fire Brigade of Ghent, Belgium, partners with LFB in FIRED-UP.

TO REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fired-up-final-conference-tickets-16469732413>

*Outputs from the project are available on the website:*

[www.fired-up.eu](http://www.fired-up.eu)

*These include:*

[THE CASE FOR INNOVATIVE PROCUREMENT](#)

[RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE PROCUREMENT OF INNOVATION](#)

[TOWARDS SPECIFICATION DEVELOPMENT: INFORMING & ENGAGING THE MARKET](#)

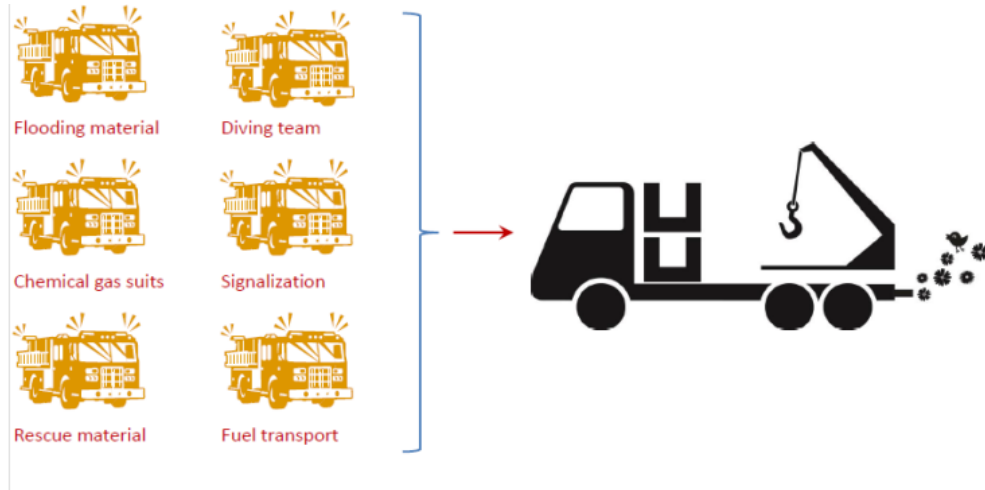
### Is your brigade interested in accessing this technology?

LFB has established two framework agreements which can be used by any fire service in Europe or other bodies purchasing on their behalf. The frameworks cover the development, supply and installation of telematics and RFID tagging equipment, and associated software.

These frameworks will remain in place until November 2018 and include fixed pricing (with allowance for inflation) for a number of products and services.

If you are interested in receiving the user guide for the frameworks or discussing their use, Please contact Abby Semple. E-mail: [abby.semple@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:abby.semple@london-fire.gov.uk), Tel: + 44 (0) 788 126 9489

## Piloting innovation in Ghent: multi-functional second line vehicle.



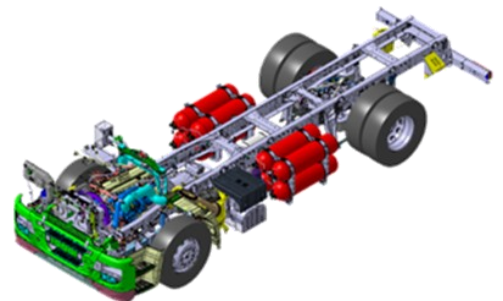
City of Ghent and the Ghent Fire Brigade have been cooperating on innovative procurement contracts for three years. Within the FIRED-UP project we were looking for an innovative solution to improve the efficiency and reduce the environmental footprint of transport for daily logistic operations and for second line interventions, meaning all logistic transport needed after the first fire trucks have assessed an emergency situation after arrival (for example extra tools needed, extra foam etc).

The procurement procedure started with the launch of a Prior Information Notice at the end of December 2013 to announce a market consultation for this innovative procurement project. In the procurement phase that followed the market consultation we received a number of interesting, innovative offers. One of the bidders, a smaller SME, named Van Bouwel, submitted the most advantageous bid.

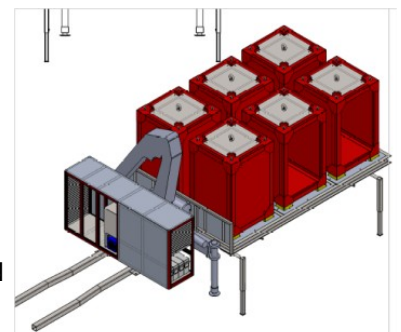
This company is currently completing the installation of an innovative crane and modular containers for the fire brigade's new CNG-powered IVECO truck. The truck will serve different functions which in the past required the fire brigade to use different trucks each assigned to one particular task.



The combination will result in more efficient loading and use the truck to its full capacity, so that "empty" rides are reduced to a minimum. The reduced environmental impact of the CNG-powered engine will contribute to better air quality. Once arrived at the delivery location an electric powered crane will allow quiet and exhaust-free drop-off of the needed goods.



The modular containers used on the truck will be kept as light as possible to reduce MTM (Maximum Allowed Load) and in the end to lower fuel consumption. They will also allow the fire brigade to transport different kind of materials including liquids like foam, water, cleaning products and fuel.



**City of Ghent and Ghent Fire Brigade will demonstrate the truck at the final conference in London in July 2015 and will also be happy to demonstrate the system to other fire brigades and fleet operators.**