



CITY OF HAMILTON
COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Hamilton Fire Department

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	October 24, 2016
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Hamilton Fire Department Standardization of Various Fire Emergency Equipment (CES16044) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Shawn De Jager 905-546-2424 ext. 3378
SUBMITTED BY:	David Cunliffe Chief, Hamilton Fire Department Community & Emergency Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the equipment, parts/supplies and services contained in Appendix A to Report CES16044 be approved as the manufacturer's standard through to December 31, 2021 for the Hamilton Fire Department;
- (b) That the vendors of the equipment, parts/supplies and services contained in Appendix A to Report CES16044 be approved as the single source of supply for the listed equipment parts/supplies and services for the Hamilton Fire Department; and,
- (c) That the Fire Chief of the Hamilton Fire Department, or his designate, be authorized and directed to enter into and sign, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, all negotiated agreements and all necessary associated documents with the vendors listed in Appendix A to Report CES16044 with content acceptable to the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting of May 23, 2012, Council approved Report HES12009, which included the standardization of various brand specific equipment within the Hamilton Fire Department (HFD).

Report CES16044 seeks approval to continue the "manufacturer's standard" of the items contained in Appendix A to Report CES16044 through to December 31, 2021.

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All items have been selected over the years by staff as the product that provides the HFD with Department-wide:

- Equipment uniformity and consistency
- Operational effectiveness
- Consistent training (familiarity and confidence in emergency situations)
- Compliance with Occupational Health and Safety Act requirements
- Less equipment down time
- Reduced repair parts inventory
- Ease of repairs.

Funding for items has been through the approved Capital Budget Process and through the approved Operating (replacement or repair) Budget Process.

The proposed manufacturer's standardization is in accordance with Purchasing Policy #14, and will provide for Department-wide consistency, which will lead to improved operational efficiencies and effectiveness.

Additionally, this standardization process will support the employer's requirements under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, R.S.O. c. 0.1. (OHS Act) to provide the necessary equipment, training and maintenance for the HFD.

Prior to December 2021, the HFD will endeavour to perform due diligence by revisiting the marketplace and its operational practices and needs to determine whether to continue with the standardization of these items.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not applicable.

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Appendix A to Report CES16044 lists the products and services recommended for standardization. In 2015, the planned expenditures relative to these products and services were approximately \$400,000 to be expensed to both the operating and capital budgets. Moving forward, the total expenditures relative to these products and services will fluctuate depending on when equipment is due for replacement, or based on use and need of repair. Adequate budget was approved for these procurements in 2016 and is similarly included the 2017 operating and capital budgets.

Staffing: There are no staffing implications associated with Report CES16044.

Legal: There are no legal implications associated with Report CES16044.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In the past some of these products were purchased by using low dollar and by the approval of the Manager of Procurement. As costs increase over the years the low dollar process is not available as the need has exceeded the \$10,000 limit. The approval by Council in 2012 of Report HES12009 for purchasing of various fire equipment has allowed for a more permanent and consistent solution in purchasing goods required by the HFD.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Procurement Policy for the City of Hamilton, Policy #14 – Standardization

Ontario Health and Safety Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.1, Section 21 Guidance Note #04-9 Respiratory Protection Program

Ontario Health and Safety Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.1, Section 21 Guidance Note #03-1(3) Reducing Diesel Fumes in Fire Stations

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Corporate Services Department, Finance Services Division – Consultation with Finance to verify financial information provided in Report CES16044.

Corporate Services Department, Procurement Section – Consultation with Procurement staff regarding the interpretation and application of Procurement policy.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Firefighting and rescue operations are very dangerous activities which require reliance on proven equipment in some of the most arduous and time sensitive situations. The recommended equipment has been researched, tested and selected by the end users.

Standardization will ensure that the equipment is properly maintained, along with associated warranties, by permitting the purchase of Original Equipment Manufactured (OEM) components and parts to maintain rescue and personal protective equipment (PPE). In some instances (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus), legislation exists relative to the prescriptive care and maintenance of such devices.

Standardization also allows for the reduced stock levels of spare parts. Equipment downtime is costly in terms of service delivery and results in increased costs. Reliable equipment reduces the number of spares that would be required and reduces the cost of repairs. Firefighters in the field rely on the quality and reliability of their emergency equipment and devices. Breakdowns or failures during emergency operations would

bring fire ground operations to a halt. By extension, such failures can extend the time in which an incident can be stabilized which can result in the injury and/or fatality of firefighters and/or civilians, as well as a result in a potential liability to the City.

Fire Suppression staff requires equipment-specific ongoing training on these types of speciality equipment. Standardization will reduce training, enhance product knowledge and assist in efficient emergency fire operations. Furthermore, equipment familiarity will assist in mitigating health and safety issues.

By standardizing these items, the HFD can then name the specific goods required in the quote / tender. Depending on the product use over the five year period, further savings may be obtained by having long term contracts in place and assist in future budget considerations. As outlined in Appendix A to Report CES16044 these items are:

1. **MSA Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC)** – Thermal Imaging Cameras (TIC) are used at emergency incidents to assist in rescue efforts by finding trapped persons in smoke filled environments. Additionally, TICs are highly effective in finding hidden fires in walls, thus reducing property damage and minimizing the potential for rekindles in the involved structure.
2. **CMC Rescue Equipment** – This equipment is required so that the HFD can conduct safe High Angle Rope Rescues (HARR) in hazardous conditions. Included in this speciality rescue equipment are carabiners, racks, pulleys, ascenders, harnesses, etc.
3. **Petzl High Angle Rope Rescue Equipment** – This equipment is required so that the HFD can conduct safe High Angle Rope Rescues (HARR). Included in this speciality rescue equipment are Rescucender, rope rescue gloves, helmets, headlamps, etc.
4. **Hale Fire Pumps** – The standardization of these pumps and parts will allow for naming Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) in RFQs or RFTs. Hale Fire Pumps have been the heart of HFD emergency pumpers since 1984. Mechanical Technicians at the HFD have a comprehensive understanding of pump design and repair procedures, thus enabling them to maintain manufacturer warranty requirements and negating their need to be retrained.
5. **Akron Valves and Nozzles** – These valves have been part of our emergency pumpers since 1990. The standardization of these valves and nozzle parts will allow for naming Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) in RFQs or RFTs.
7. **Industrial Scientific – Provider of Gas Detection for Hazmat and Confined Space** – These gas detectors have been in service since 2008 and assist in

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providing important information of poisonous (carbon monoxide) or dangerous atmospheres (low oxygen in confined space rescues, and other explosive or poisonous chemicals) in some of the most hazardous conditions. Familiarization with such devices not only serves to negate the need to retrain numerous personnel in alternate devices (which is very costly), it also supports the operational effectiveness and efficiency of personnel.

8. **Hurst Power Products** – Hurst Power Products provides the HFD the e-draulic power equipment, commonly known as the “Jaws of Life” (spreaders, cutters, rams and air lifting bags), for extrication of entrapped persons from vehicles or industrial accidents. This is a Single Source procurement as there is only one distributor in Canada.
9. **Portacount – Fit Tester for Breathing and Protective Masks** – This fit testing unit is to ensure the firefighters and paramedics have the required size and fit of their respirator and N95 medical mask. Annual face fitting of all personnel is a core requirement of Respiratory Protection programs, and HFD personnel are trained and knowledgeable in the operations and applications of the Portacount units. This is a Single Source procurement as there is only one distributor in Canada.
10. **Schlage Security Locks – Binns Lock and Key** – At amalgamation in 2001, a security lock system was specially designed for Hamilton Emergency Services for use throughout its 30 Fire and EMS Stations. This Schlage security lock system is currently maintained by Binns Lock and Key, Hamilton, Ontario. This is a Single Source procurement as Binns Lock and Key is the only administrator of our high security Schlage lock system.
11. **Padgenite Insulating Panels** – These insulated panels are used at our Training Academy Burn Building to protect the building from the live training fires. This is a Single Source procurement as Padgenite is purchased directly from the manufacturer in the United States.
12. **Ventilation and Rescue Saws – Cutters Edge** – Report HES09003 outlined the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee rationale that led to the recommendation of Cutters Edge Ventilation Saws and Cutters Edge Rescue Saws as the equipment that met the department’s needs. The original recommendation to standardize this equipment still stands.
13. **Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) – Scott Safety** – Report HES09003 outlined the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee rationale that led to the

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recommendation of Scott Aviation Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus as the equipment that met the department's needs. The original recommendation to standardize this equipment still stands noting the Department's significant investment in material and training since 2009.

- 14. Vehicle Exhaust Extraction – Nederman Canada** – Report HES09003 outlined the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee rationale that led to the recommendation of Nederman Canada for Vehicle Exhaust Extraction Systems as the equipment that met the department's needs. The original recommendation to standardize this equipment still stands noting the department's significant investment in material and overall satisfaction with the product and services which have been in use within the HFD since the late 1990s.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement & Participation

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix A to Report CES16044: HFD Standardized Equipment, Parts/Supplies and Services