

Anco Manufacturing launches new Ural 4x4 CAFS fire engine



The heavy-duty Anco Ural 4x4 fire engine with a CAFS and rugged off-road performance

The new heavy-duty Ural 4x4 fire engine was built by Anco Manufacturing based in Piet Retief in Mpumalanga, South Africa and transferred into an all-round fire fighting vehicle. Drakenstein Farm Watch NPC (DFW), an independent fire and rescue volunteer group based in the Western Cape, was chosen to be the first in South Africa to experience and utilise the Anco Ural truck combination in their fleet.

The DFW fire and rescue group fights fires of many origins, already for many years, from field and forest,

to structures, residential dwellings or even informal settlements.

The new fire engine was built on a Ural 43-206 4x4 chassis cab, has a 3 000-litre tank and offers legendary off-road capabilities.

The new Anco Ural fire engine is fitted with a compressed air foam system (CAFS), which was specially developed and designed by Anco Manufacturing and is a definite game changer in fire fighting.

A TFT EF1 remote control bumper monitor is mounted on the front bull

bar and the unit is equipped with enough storage bins and its own vehicle protection system.

The truck has inflate and deflate capabilities while driving and can use the power take off (PTO) while driving. It has a massive ground clearance, 900nm torque and a diff lock.

The vehicle is designed around rural and wildfire conditions where pumps and equipment are simplified but robust and where CAFS can be added to give the vehicle a much greater fire fighting capability.

The project was done in conjunction with Feeler Africa, the importers of Ural 4x4 and 6x6 truck chassis into South Africa. They supplied the chassis and Anco, in conjunction with a few other suppliers, supplied the fire fighting capabilities.

The plan is to have the vehicle work in real-world conditions over the next year. First up is Drakenstein Farm Watch in Paarl, who will be using the vehicle in their fleet of fire trucks. Various other players in the fire fighting community in the Western Cape will also be given the opportunity to test



The hand-over to Drakenstein Farm Watch



The Anco Ural was fitted with a vehicle protection system



The truck has inflate and deflate capabilities while driving

- CAFS can be successfully delivered at head heights exceeding 70m (own studies has confirmed)
- Compact design: equipment occupies less space on fire fighting vehicles due to compact designs and the ability to retrofit a system onto existing fire fighting trucks and on multiple vehicle platforms
- Due to significant reduction in weight (foam is much lighter than water) hoses are easier to handle reducing fatigue and effort
- Virtually no friction loss (foam bubbles moves easier through a hose compared to water) allows longer hose to be used compared to conventional water-based systems.
- Increased ability to put down a highly visible, longer lasting protection barrier for protecting vegetation and structures
- CAFS significantly reduces water damage in fire fighting operations

Why Anco CAFS?

Anco Manufacturing has been developing and producing world-class fire fighting equipment for many years. The need for a lower cost, South African produced and supported CAFS system lead to the development of a 100 percent local version of this popular fire fighting apparatus. All components used in the Anco CAFS system are from reputable manufacturers that have been tried and tested in fire fighting operations. ▲

- ▶ the vehicle during the fire season there. Thereafter the vehicle will be moved up north for the winter to work in commercial forestry, industrial and perhaps municipal/wildfire scenarios.

The capabilities of the “Truck Norris”, so nicknamed by its designers, as well as its many automated functions and the protection measurements for the truck and crew, make the operations so much easier and a three-men crew is all that is needed to operate the truck to its full potential and capacity.

Anco Manufacturing Pty Ltd is a South African manufacturing company with roots going back three generations. Anco has made a name for itself as a leader in quality innovative products in the fire fighting and agricultural manufacturing industries.

Benefits of CAFS

- Very low water consumption (compared to conventional water methods)

- Excellent knock-down capabilities. CAFS has more than seven times the fire extinguishing properties compared to water (independent studies)
- Water expansion: effectively expands water capacity up to 10 times



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