



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service and AAMI

Friday 1 November

AAMI donates new equipment for safer VICSES rescues

The Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) have received a generous donation from AAMI to purchase essential emergency response equipment as part of this year's AAMI Handover Program.

AAMI has been VICSES' Principal Community Partner since 2002, during which time AAMI has contributed a total of eight and a half million dollars, with a large portion going directly to volunteer units through the equipment handover program.

This year's funds will be used to purchase over 2,000 pieces of equipment across the state. The contribution is vital for VICSES volunteers, who work tirelessly in supporting their local community and educating the public.

Last year, VICSES volunteers were called to a total of 23,682 calls for assistance.

That's 201,990 operational hours!

AAMI's continuing support is critical in ensuring our volunteers are equipped with the latest training and tools to provide assistance like this.

Each year, AAMI's contribution is successfully directed to supporting our volunteers at a local level, where it will be of most benefit to them and the community.

All of the equipment purchased is imperative in ensuring VICSES volunteers are able to efficiently and safely support the community. Often, the equipment purchased is used to help save lives.

AAMI also plays a key role in supporting VICSES' community awareness campaigns, such as 15 to float.

15 to float is a flood safety campaign designed to raise awareness of the dangers when driving through floodwater. All it takes is 15cm of water for a car to lose traction.

VICSES volunteers provide on the ground support during emergencies, from responding to natural disasters such as flood, storm, tsunami, earthquake and landslide, to road rescue, land searches and supporting other emergency service organisations.

Volunteers also work with their local communities to strengthen the public's capacity to plan, respond and recover, when emergencies occur.

For more information, contact:

VICSES State Media Duty Officer
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Quotes attributable to Kate White, VICSES Director Community Resilience and Communication,

“Our volunteers are highly skilled to help save lives. Last year, VICSES volunteers attended more than one thousand road rescues. The support of AAMI and this program in assisting our volunteers is outstanding”.

“VICSES volunteers are trusted by their communities to help in times of need. Thanks to AAMI, our volunteers are armed with the best equipment to support the community”.

Quotes attributable to Paul Sofronoff, Head of Motor and Property Claims for AAMI

“We are proud of our 17-year partnership with the VICSES and hope our contribution to the new equipment will help make our communities safer”.

“We have over two thousand pieces of equipment to handover to volunteers across the state including chainsaws, hand power tools, portable lights and helmets to help volunteers carry out rescue operations, particularly in dangerous conditions”.