



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service

Thursday 18 October

Lucky...VICSES Bendigo Unit is with AAMI

The Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) has received a critical funding boost, thanks to a generous contribution by insurer, AAMI.

AAMI has been VICSES' Principal Community Partner since 2002, during that time AAMI has contributed a total of nearly 8 million dollars.

For the VICSES Bendigo Unit, as one of the 102 road rescue accredited specialist units across the state, this year's supportive contribution will be used to purchase a range of equipment, vital in helping to save lives on the road.

VICSES is Australia's largest road rescue provider. In the last 10 years volunteers have responded to more than ten thousand road rescue call outs!

That's why the AAMI partnership is so important for VICSES. It ensures our volunteers are well equipped with the best equipment available to safely support their communities, when it is most needed.

Last year the Bendigo Unit responded to more than 70 road rescue call outs.

This year's funds have been used to buy over two thousand pieces of equipment.

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.

Volunteers at the VICSES Bendigo Unit responded to a total of more than 500 emergency calls for assistance last year, the majority for storm related damage.

Quotes attributable to Stephen Griffin, VICSES CEO

"Last year, VICSES attended more than one thousand road rescues. Thanks to AAMI and its ongoing support, our volunteers are armed with the best equipment to help save lives."

"VICSES volunteers are trusted by their communities to help in times of need. AAMI's support goes a long way to ensuring our volunteers receive the best training and equipment to do this".

For more information, contact:

VICSES State Media Duty Officer
Phone: 1300 783 933
Email: media@ses.vic.gov.au