Press release



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Fire away with FOGMAKER fire-suppression system at Electra Mining 2018

FOGMAKER South Africa (Pty) Ltd. will not only display its efficient triple-action fire-suppression system at the highly anticipated Electra Mining Africa 2018 but will also be conducting live demonstrations to show the remarkable effectiveness of water-mist technology.

Intelligently engineered to fit in most engine compartments, FOGMAKER utilises the power of water in the form of high-pressure mist (50-micron droplets) to eliminate oxygen, heat and fuel, thereby effectively suppressing the fire in seconds.

According to the Managing Director of FOGMAKER South Africa, John Russell, mining contractors are under pressure from mining houses to have their machines fitted with fire prevention systems. "When it comes to choosing the right technology, we are seeing a distinct move by both mining companies and contractors to adopt water mist technology as the preferred fire suppression system. In fact, two blue-chip mining companies have decided to change to water mist technology from powder or foam as the preferred fire extinguishing method. They are recognising the numerous advantages offered by this type of system related to extended life cycle, low total cost of ownership, and, most importantly, safety. Furthermore, in addition to fast and efficient fire suppression, the low maintenance system prevents reignition and is easy to clean up and reset after discharge."

Russell describes this low-weight, low-maintenance Swedish-manufactured FOGMAKER system as "simplicity itself". The system makes use of the purest extinguishant, water, combined with 3% Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF), to attack all three components in the fire triangle namely heat, oxygen and fuel. "We call this Fogmaker's TRIPLE ACTION³ effect."

Using high-pressure (100 bar) water mist, the system effectively suppresses the fire and cools down the compartment to prevent reignition. Russel points out that the use of water in the form of mist (50-micron droplets) presents an additional firefighting benefit that no other fire-fighting agent has. "The significant number of droplets together with the large combined surface area effectively blocks radiant heat by absorbing and scattering heat radiation, which helps to reduce fire damage within the engine compartment.

As high pressure and consequently high discharge speed is required to ensure that the mist reaches the flames and penetrates the outward flows induced by the fire, the system is fitted with special high-pressure nozzles.

2/...FOGMAKER & Electra Mining

These nozzles ensure good penetration of droplets into the fire as well as efficient cooling and oxygen depletion due to the respective fast vaporisation and the expansion of vaporised droplets. The patented discharge piston allows for a complete discharge regardless of the orientation of the bottle, vertically or horizontally, leading to a versatile installation footprint. This, together with a compact, neat design, enables the system to be fitted in confined, internal compartments, avoiding hindrance to general machine maintenance.

As there is no powder or mess to clean-up after actuation, resetting of the released FOGMAKER suppression system is easier and faster than powder or foam suppression systems. "After a discharge, it's a simple matter of replacing the detector hose and refilling the piston accumulator, thus keeping costs and downtime to the absolute minimum," says Russell.

Every diesel engine-operated machine presents a potential fire risk, with implications for people safety, uptime and productivity as well as repair and replacement costs. This automatic fire suppression system is therefore ideally suited to any industry where diesel machines are being operated. Russell confirms the recent roll out of 50 FOGMAKER fire suppression units for fitment to a fleet of above-surface mining machines to a large mining contractor operating at a diamond mine who had lost machines to fire in the past.

"We have also noted a growing demand for an automatic fire suppression system in the local forestry industry," states Russell. "The FOGMAKER system is suited to most forestry machines and we are proud of the fact that it is the standard OEM fire suppression system on the AHWI mulcher. We have also been receiving requests from mines and ports for installation of the FOGMAKER system in containerised generator sets."

FOGMAKER will be sharing a stand (P18) in Nasrec's lake area, with sister company, Integrated Air Solutions, who will be displaying its comprehensive range of electric as well as high-pressure diesel compressors.

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About FOGMAKER South Africa (Pty) Ltd.

FOGMAKER South Africa is the sole regional distributor of the world-renowned Fogmaker high-pressure water-mist fire suppression system for vehicles and machines with enclosed engine compartments.

A machine fire in the workplace (mine, forest, or port) can have devastating consequences in the form of injury, loss of life and production reductions with high economic loss. In the compact and hot engine compartment of a yellow metal machine the propagation of fire can be very fast, and if not detected early and sufficiently suppressed, will lead to a total asset loss.

Fogmaker's triple-action system quickly detects and effectively suppresses a fire by attacking and neutralizing all three components of the fire triangle – heat, oxygen and fuel.

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GiGi Investment Group companies include:-Integrated Pump Technology (Pty) Ltd Integrated Pump Rental (Pty) Ltd Integrated Air Solutions (Pty) Ltd Integrated Ship Handling (Pty) Ltd Fogmaker South Africa (Pty) Ltd

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