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NEWS RELEASE

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BRANSON FIREFIGHTERS RECEIVE NEW THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS

The Branson Fire Department recently received three new Thermal Imaging Cameras designed to assist firefighters performing fire and rescue operations primarily in smoke-filled environments.

These new camera units replace outdated equipment that the fire department has been using for several years.

“We are excited to receive these units as an important part of modern fire-fighting equipment,” said Fire Chief Carl Sparks. “These cameras will assist our firefighters in tracking down a fire source and seeking out smoldering fires in dark and smoke-filled rooms as well as remaining hot embers.”

The thermal imaging cameras can help save lives by assisting firefighters in the search for missing persons by detecting their body heat. The uses for Thermal imaging can expand from firefighting operations to situation assessment and fire watch, to training and special applications, such as in conjunction with the use of dangerous substances.

“With the new technology these cameras operate with, firefighters can use six different color palettes to optimize images such as outdoor search and rescue as the cameras can seek temperature differences around any given ambient temperature whether inside a fire scene or outside in the woods,” said Sparks.

The cameras include picture and video capabilities that allow firefighters to store images of various fire-rescue incidents or save pictures during training operations.

The thermal imaging cameras were budgeted in the 2009 capital improvements budget.



Branson Fire Department Engineer Nathanael Jones and Firefighter Benjamin Hatcher train on the features of new Thermal Imaging Cameras recently purchased by the department.



Branson Fire Department Engineer Nathanael Jones shows off one of the new thermal imaging cameras purchased by the fire department.