

Pound Fire Dept. Awarded \$10,000 GP Grant

By Mike Kawleski, Public Affairs Manager, GBO

The Village of Pound Fire Department will receive urgently needed personal protective equipment (PPE) under the [Georgia-Pacific Bucket Brigade™](#) grant program. Georgia-Pacific's Green Bay Operations presented the fire unit with a check for \$10,000 to replace old, obsolete turnout gear with new coats, pants, helmets, boots, gloves and hoods.

"Thanks to this support, we'll be able properly outfit our firefighters so they can safely perform their duties," said Pound Fire Chief Turner Gross. "Some of our current gear is 15 years old and no longer protects our members."

A record 55 fire departments in 21 states will receive Georgia-Pacific Bucket Brigade grants this year totaling \$270,000, the largest amount since the program began in 2006. The program has now surpassed the \$1.25 million mark in cash grants to fire departments serving communities across the country. In the past five years alone, 10 Wisconsin fire departments have received \$80,000 in grants from the program.

"Fire departments are often the first responders when emergencies take place in the communities where our employees live and our facilities are located," said Randy Harbath, vice president of manufacturing for

Broadway. "We're proud to have the opportunity to help fund their significant needs, which allows them to better ensure the safety and security of our friends and neighbors in northeast Wisconsin."

The grants, generally ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000, are based on need and are funded by the [Georgia-Pacific Foundation](#) and local Georgia-Pacific facilities. This year's program applicants requested funds to replace items such as worn out protective clothing, cracked helmets, aging hoses and nozzles, and hand-held radios – essential equipment that will help keep firefighters safer and make their jobs easier.



The Pound Fire Department was awarded \$10,000 by the Georgia-Pacific Bucket Brigade™ grant program, which has given \$1.25 million to deserving fire departments across the country since 2006. Pound will use the funds to replace old, obsolete turnout gear with new coats, pants, helmets, boots, gloves and hoods. **Randy Harbath**, vice president of Georgia-Pacific's Green Bay Broadway mill, presented the check to Fire Chief **Turner Gross** and Village President **Gerald (Jay) Martens** at the department's regular meeting.