

Tejon Ranch and IKEA Purchase New Fire Truck for Kern County

The Kern County Fire Department's fire-fighting fleet got a big boost yesterday with the unveiling of its newest weapon – a state of the art ladder truck with a boom that can reach 100 feet.

Bob Stine, President and CEO of Tejon Ranch Company, presented the truck to Chief Deputy Mark Chaffin and Kern County Supervisors Pete Parra and Ray Watson during ceremonies held in front of the IKEA distribution center at the Tejon Industrial Complex. The truck, which cost \$848,609, was jointly purchased by Tejon Ranch and IKEA to bolster the county fire department's fire-fighting capabilities at the Tejon Industrial Complex and throughout south Kern County. The truck will join a separate fire engine at the Mettler Fire Station until a new station is built at the Tejon Industrial Complex.

The truck, made by Pierce Arrow, was built according to the specifications provided by the fire department. The boom can stretch 100 feet, allowing it to reach above the rooftops of the large warehouses at the industrial complex. It has a high-pressure nozzle at the end of the boom that can deliver both water and foam at up to 1500 gallons per minute. Its 515 horsepower engine and heavy-duty transmission will also enable the 73,000-pound truck to climb the grapevine at 40 mph.

The truck is the first installment of an agreement reached between Tejon Ranch and the County of Kern when the Board of Supervisors approved Tejon Industrial Complex in July of 2000. Tejon will also build a new fire station as part of that agreement and is providing funding for an additional fire fighter.



Photo: TIC Marketing