



NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

AFG grants often cover cost of Continental gear washers/dryers

Oshkosh, Wis.--The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program open application period is coming soon. Many fire departments nationally use AFG funds to purchase Continental Girbau Inc. (Continental) ExpressWash® Washers and ExpressDry® Gear Dryers. Using this equipment, fire departments can properly clean and dry soiled turnout gear – returning it to service sooner. “By properly cleaning protective apparel, gear lasts longer and firefighters aren’t exposed to the hazardous chemicals found in soiled gear,” said Joel Jorgensen, Continental vice president of sales and customer services.

ExpressWash Washers properly clean protective gear according to gear manufacturer and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines. Operators simply select a program number, press start, and the washer automatically blends optimum water temperatures, water levels, chemicals, extraction speeds and cycle times. ExpressWash Washers are freestanding and can be installed in truck bays, utility rooms, over heated floors, or anywhere there is extra space. They properly clean gear, and in doing so, help protect firefighters from the carcinogens and biohazards found in dirty gear.

ExpressDry Gear Dryers use a 110-volt fan to push non-heated air through hanging garments – returning gear to service in hours, rather than days. Quick and easy to use, the ExpressDry Gear Dryer adapts to specific types and sizes of gear without turning them inside out. The dryer can simultaneously accommodate up to six suits, along with helmets, gloves, boots, facemasks and SCBAs.

Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and first responders obtain equipment needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. Because dirty gear

can be hazardous to firefighter health, fire departments across the nation purchase ExpressWash and ExpressDry equipment with AFG grants every year.

ExpressWash Washers and ExpressDry Gear Dryers are backed by an industry-leading ContinentalCare™ warranty and often qualify for AFG grant dollars. To find out more about Continental products, visit www.continentalgirbau.com or call 800-256-1073. Get the latest AFG news at <http://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>.

Continental Girbau Inc. is the largest of 15 subsidiaries of the Girbau Group, based in Vic, Spain. Girbau laundry products – marketed throughout 90 countries worldwide – meet rigorous environmental and safety standards established by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Girbau S.A. holds both ISO9001 and ISO14001 certifications. Ever focused on laundry efficiency, Continental Girbau is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGB), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that developed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System

