

"Firefighting Team of the Year 2016" visits New York colleagues

Volunteer Fire Department Lehrte (Lower Saxony) hosted by the Fire Department of the City of New York / Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award gives German team a look behind the scenes of the world's largest urban fire department

Ulm, 02 June 2017

From Lower Saxony to the huge American metropolis: last week, this dream came true for ten members of the Lehrte Volunteer Fire Department. The team was honoured in January as the "National Firefighting Team of the Year 2016" at the Conrad Dietrich Award Ceremony and presented with the so-called "Oscar of the firefighting sector". The prize: a trip to the "Big Apple" with all of its attractions, as well as unforgettable insights into the daily work of their American colleagues at the Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY). "Shadowing the team at the Training Academy, following their courses and talking to them about operational tactics in New York – that was a truly unique experience, and one that will stay with us for a long time," says Stephan Keil, spokesperson for the Lehrte Volunteer Fire Department.

A jury of experts, together with online voters rated the team from Lower Saxony as the "Firefighting Team of the Year" at the Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award. For the Lehrte Fire Department, traffic accidents are a major focus of its operations owing to its proximity to the Hannover-Ost motorway junction. To provide rapid and comprehensive help, they developed a special rescue concept. It was thanks to this, that they were able to free a seriously injured truck driver from his cab after a multi-truck pile-up on the Autobahn A2, connecting the Ruhr district with the German capital Berlin. For this outstanding team effort, the firefighters not only received the coveted Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award, but also won the trip to New York.

Guests of the FDNY

The ten members of the Lehrte Volunteer Fire Department departed for America on 20 May. After seeing world-famous attractions such as 5th Avenue, Central Park and the Empire State Building, they visited fire stations in Chinatown, Harlem and the Bronx.

Special highlights were the world's most modern fire boat ("Marine 1") as well as the famous Fire Academy in Brooklyn: "The Rock". All New York firefighters attend this training centre to learn and practice subway rescue, nuclear-biological-chemical (NBC) exercises, firefighting and safety training. The Lehrte firefighters were impressed and deeply moved by the 9/11 Museum and Memorial – a place that makes it abundantly clear the risks to which firefighters are exposed in their operations.

Global Community

After five days in the metropolis, the firefighters from Lehrte and New York said their goodbyes and the Germans returned to Lower Saxony. They brought back many memories, new friendships and experiences as well as the certainty that the firefighting community goes far beyond national borders.

The Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award was presented for the fifth time in 2016 and is considered to be the "Oscar of the firefighting sector". With ENDRESS Elektrogerätebau, DÖNGES as well as LUKAS/VETTER, renowned companies in the firefighting industry have supported and accompanied the competition.

Further information is available under www.magirusgroup.com/award.

About the Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award

The Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award was first announced in Germany in 2012; since 2013, it is also open to international fire departments. The competition is named for a fireman who is considered a pioneer and inventor of modern firefighting and who continues to set an example for firefighters around the world: Conrad Dietrich Magirus. The Ulm firefighter set himself the goal of making firefighting safer for himself and his colleagues. He attracted worldwide attention for revolutionary inventions such as the "Ulm turntable ladder". More than 150 years ago, he founded the Magirus company, which to this day places the work of firefighters in the foreground and specially honours them with the Conrad Dietrich Magirus Award.

About Magirus

Passion and precision, high-tech and craftsmanship. Since 1864, Magirus has combined innovation and tradition to assist firefighters throughout the world. With a comprehensive range of state-of-the-art, reliable fire engines, turntable ladders, rescue and equipment vehicles, special solutions, pumps and portable pumps, Magirus is known globally as one of the largest and technologically leading providers of firefighting and disaster control technology.

Magirus is a brand of CNH Industrial N.V. (NYSE: CNHI / MI: CNHI), a worldwide leading company in the capital goods sector with a broad spectrum of products and a global presence.

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