

Karratha VFRS happy to bus on

Karratha Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS) has been given a mobility boost courtesy of a bus donated by Rio Tinto.

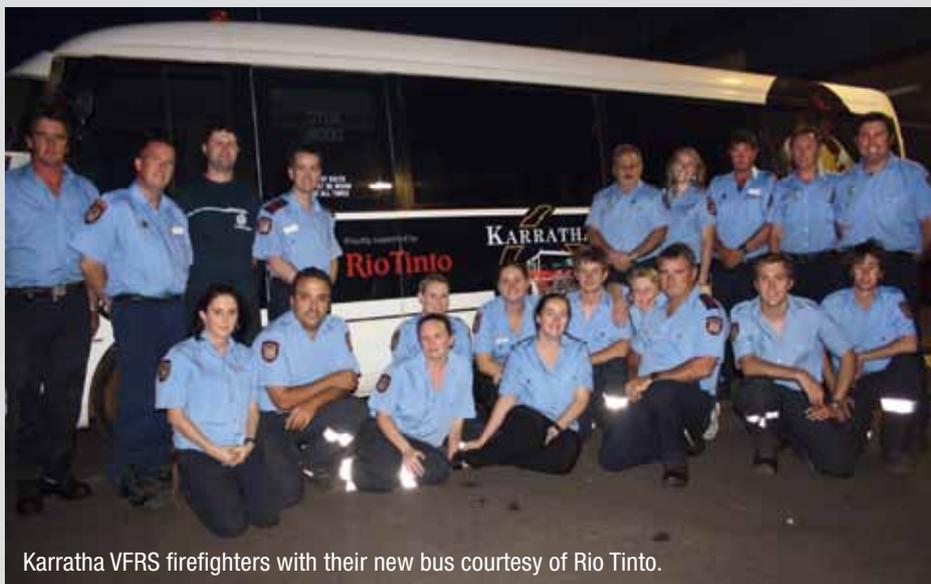
Brigade Captain Brett Treeby said the 24 seater valued at \$60,000 was very much appreciated by the brigade.

“We’d been looking for transport of this type for some time and it was a great day for brigade members when we took delivery,” Brett said.

“Previously volunteers had to drive their own vehicles to attend training and exercises in other parts of the Pilbara.

“With large distances between centres it’s been difficult to get to events outside Karratha.

“The bus has made travel far easier for our volunteers and this will help us to retain members.”



Karratha VFRS firefighters with their new bus courtesy of Rio Tinto.

Rio Tinto Communities Manager Robyn Sermon said donating equipment was an important part of the company’s community investment program.

“This bus donation achieves twice, by giving assistance to Karratha VFRS as well as using resources in a more sustainable way,” she said.

Extinguish the risk

Having a working fire extinguisher could mean the difference between losing your entire home or just minor damage.



“The first few moments of a fire are absolutely critical,” said FESA Safety Training Officer Tom Goodlich.

“A whole room can be engulfed in flames within two minutes of a fire starting.

“That’s why it’s so critical to have a working fire extinguisher because if you can attack the blaze when it first begins, it will be much easier to fight and bring under control.”

Tom said it was not uncommon for someone to knock a fire extinguisher, causing it to leak.

“Accidents happen, but you can protect your home and family by checking your extinguisher every three months,” he said.

“It’s also important for boat and caravan owners and people who drive long distances to have a working fire extinguisher.

“The vibration from a boat, caravan or car can affect the powder in a fire extinguisher, so they need to be checked once a month.”

Top 10 fire extinguisher tips

- Seek professional advice about the best size and type of extinguisher to suit your needs.
- Ensure it meets Australian Standards.
- Ask the supplier to show you how to use your extinguisher.
- Check your home extinguisher every three months and your boat, caravan or car extinguisher once a month to ensure they have not been accidentally set off.
- Make sure the yellow needle is in the green section. If it is in the red section it means it has leaked.
- Ensure the safety pin and plastic seal are in place.
- Gently rock the extinguisher from side to side to see if the contents have settled and become hard, and if so gently tap the base with your hand.
- Have the extinguisher professionally serviced once a year.
- Place your extinguisher within easy reach in your car, boat or caravan, but near the door or exit.
- In your home place the extinguisher in or adjacent to your kitchen, but not too close to a potential hazard.

For more information visit:
www.fesa.wa.gov.au