

**Columbus Fire Department
Memorandum
For Record**

DATE: 1 April 2025

TO: Tara Vasicek, City Administrator

FROM: Ryan S. Gray, Fire Chief

RE: Annual Pump/Ladder/Hose Testing

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the quotes from Danko and Fire Catt for conducting annual fire pump, ladder, and hose testing in the combined amount of \$16,956.05.

DISCUSSION:

The testing of fire pumps, ground and aerial ladders, and fire hoses is required according to National Fire Protection Association standards. Historically, we have had Danko complete the ladder and pump testing. This year, we budgeted to have a third party conduct our hose testing, which was previously performed by on-duty personnel.

As we work to streamline our internal processes, it was determined that a third-party testing solution would provide for better record keeping and liability reduction to the City. The hose testing would be completed by a third-party, and all testing records will be provided to the City for keeping. This also reduces the amount of time any one apparatus is out of service during the testing period since on-duty crews will not need to stop testing to respond to emergency incidents or tend to other duties while on shift.

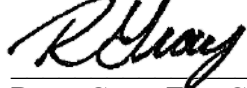
FISCAL IMPACT:

The total for this project is \$16,956.05. We have \$20,000 currently budgeted for this project in 100-120-53210 (Equipment Recertification Program).

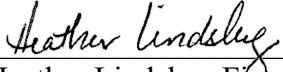
ALTERNATIVES:

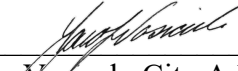
We are not recommending any other options at this time.

SIGNATURES:



Ryan Gray, Fire Chief


Heather Lindsley, Finance Director


Tara Vasicek, City Administrator


www.firecatt.com

3250 West Big Beaver Ste., 544 Troy, MI 48084

248-643-7200

Fax 248-643-4540

Service Test Agreement

Fire Department: Columbus Fire department 428 8 th Street Columbus, NE 68601	P.O. Number:	Annual Testing for Years: 2025
Fire Department Contact: Captain Derek Salak	Mobile/Emergency Contact Phone: 402-564-8127	Email: Derek.salak@columbusne.us

Test Season Requested: (circle)	Jan.-Mar.	April - June	July – Sept.	Oct. – Dec.
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Estimated Hose Footage:	FireCatt Option:	Price Per Foot:	Total Cost:
38,800	Option 2 Customer reloads	\$0.38	\$14,744.00
Estimated Ground Ladder Footage:			
299	Columbus Fire Ladders	\$2.95	\$882.05
165	Columbus Rural Fire Ladders	\$2.95	\$486.75
Grand Total	Columbus Fire Department Columbus Rural Fire Department	1 Year	\$15,626.05 \$ 486.75

Terms: Due upon receipt, in the event payment is not made within 45 days, a service charge of 1% per month for all outstanding balances will be due FireCatt. 3-year pricing is guaranteed as long as it remains below 5% per year for the duration of this agreement. Pricing is based on Fire Departments estimate of footage, invoicing is based on actual feet tested. Hose report is documented on a per department basis. Documentation on a per apparatus or station basis must be pre-arranged and subject to additional cost. Any specific city, county, state licenses, insurance riders/addendums, or other requirements that add cost to doing business with your municipality/institution could result in charge backs, service fees, or a higher price charged for services rendered.

Minimum Charge- Fire Departments with under 5,200' of hose to test will be subject to a minimum charge of \$2,288.00.

Fire Hose Testing Service Includes:

- Service pressure test per NFPA 1962 Standard latest edition, patented technology designed for safety, accuracy, and speed
- Identification number assigned to each length of hose using a FireCatt bar code label on each coupling and redundant marking on the hose jacket at each end
- Inspect-outer jacket, inner liner, coupling, and threads

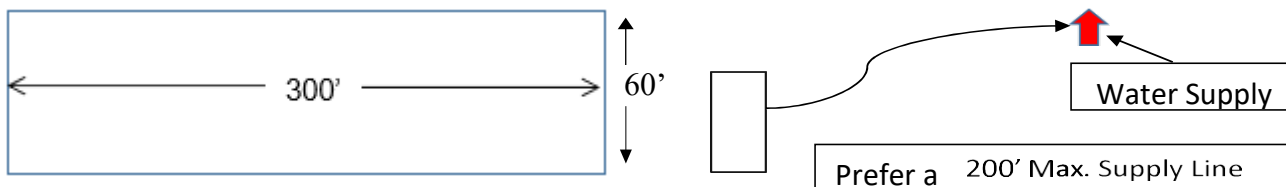
- Inspect gaskets, replace as required
- Lubricate all couplings using fire hose manufacturer approved 100% silicone lubricant
- Lubricate all apparatus connection points using marine grade “Never Seize”
- Tag all defective hose, mark defect location on hose, remove from service
- Record all data accurately, provide testing report in hard copy, electronically that can dovetail into your existing software, and via internet access on our secure servers
- Unload and reload all hose to meet your specifications when FireCatt labor is provided

Ground Ladder Testing Service Includes:

- Service Test per NFPA 1932 Standard latest edition, using digital load cell technology
- Identification number assigned to each ladder using a FireCatt bar code label
- Heat sensor label applied to each ladder if current label is out of date
- Report data as outlined above

Customer Requirements:

At FireCatt, our number one goal is **100% customer satisfaction** while providing the fastest, safest, and MOST accurate fire hose and ground ladder testing in the nation. Experience has shown us that annual service testing **REQUIRES** a **collaborative approach** to ensure a successful testing program! **Therefore, the customer responsibilities are as follows:**



1. **Test Site:** Provide a paved site (asphalt or concrete – **grass or gravel are NOT acceptable**) with minimum work envelope dimensions of 300' x 60'. The larger the test site the more efficient the test process. If the test site requires third party approval, the fire department must obtain this approval in advance of the test day.

NOTE: Fire hose WILL get wet during hose testing! The condition of the test site plays an influential role in keeping your hose as dry and clean as possible. Good drainage, clean surface, no potholes, no weeds are all important criteria that need to be considered. The condition of the test site plays an influential role in keeping your hose dry and clean. Good drainage, clean surface, no potholes, no weeds are all important criteria that need to be considered. Additionally, we do not recommend testing through the station bays 1) coated floors can become slippery, 2) station personnel tend to be too close to high pressure hose, 3) we cannot be responsible for damage to the station or floor.

SAFETY: NFPA1962 is clear on safety, stating: “Because there is a potential for catastrophic failure during service testing of fire hose, it is vital that safety precautions be taken to prevent exposure of anyone to this danger.” It is the responsibility of the department to instruct their personnel to keep clear of the test area and not cross hose lines. during testing.

2. **Water Source:** Water for testing to be provided via fire hydrant. In those communities where fire hydrants are not available a standpipe or tender may be used. FireCatt requires a minimum of 35 psi from any water source. The Fire Department is required to operate their tender. Tenders need to be refilled as soon as each test cycle finishes.

3. **Rack/Spare fire hose:** The FireCatt test process begins with testing spare fire hose. The Fire Department must have all spare hose at the test site by 8:00 am, the first day of testing. Apparatus hose test to follow spare hose test, this way there is prequalified tested rack/spare hose ready to replace any apparatus hose that fails.
4. **Onsite Contact:** The Fire Department must provide an on-site single point of contact, please provide a name and cell phone number in advance of scheduling your test date. The contact person must have the authority for directing the departments responsibilities that include:
 - a. Driving apparatus includes driving out and laying Large Diameter Hose. **NOTE: FireCatt personnel will NOT drive fire department apparatus!**
 - b. FireCatt's Pre-Test survey with the FireCatt Team Leader so that all parties are on the same page regarding test day expectations.
 - c. Insure the timely presentation of apparatus/hose for testing. The FireCatt/Fire Department cadence must match up to avoid down time. FireCatt would prefer to have the next apparatus for testing on-site 30 minutes prior to testing of that apparatus. This will ensure the most efficient test process.
 - d. Providing apparatus re-load direction, reviewing, and signing off on each individual FireCatt Apparatus Doc Sheet indicating that FireCatt has re- loaded your apparatus correctly and there is no damage to your apparatus.
5. **Out of Service Apparatus:** It is the responsibility of the Fire Department to ensure all fire hose/Ground ladders are presented for testing. FireCatt's schedule **does not allow for returning to test out of service apparatus hose.**
6. **Tower Hose:** It is the responsibility of the Fire Department to remove/replace any hose from the tower. FireCatt employees are not insured to be in your hose tower.
7. **Fire Department Labor:** FireCatt Option 2 requires the Fire Department to re-load their apparatus. If Option 2 applies to your department, you must have the appropriate number of fire fighters engaged in the process to match the cadence of the FireCatt testing cycle.
8. **Special Couplings/Thread Adapters:** FireCatt's Mobile Test Lab is equipped with NH threads in sizes 1", 1.5", 2.5" and 4" & 5" Storz couplings. If your department is using any threads/couplings that differ from those FireCatt provides, **it is the fire department's responsibility to provide adapters.**
9. **Special Requests** Any special requests or "change orders" outside of the FireCatt quotation/agreement **MUST** be negotiated prior to the first day of testing. FireCatt employees follow the FireCatt SOG which ensures compliance to NFPA standards, please do not ask us to deviate from our SOG.
10. **Inclement Weather:** Any of the following beyond our control could result in a test day interruption or cancellation; lightning, non-stop rain/downpour, hail, temperature of 40 degrees or below.
11. **Cancellation, Delays, Unexpected Changes, and the *potential* for Additional Fees:**

The following conditions affect the efficiency of the hose testing process and are **subject to additional fees.**

- Last-minute cancellations.
- Hose dropped off that is tangled requiring additional time to untangle.
- Waiting on a water source including, having to move test site, or waiting on a tender to arrive with water.
- Waiting for apparatus/hose to be presented for testing or not providing agreed upon number of apparatus/hoses per day.
- Not providing adequate personnel when the fire department has elected to reload their hose.
- Time consuming efforts on the part of FireCatt to keep hose dry.

- Undersized or irregular shaped test sites that cause test process inefficiencies.
- Any other issue that negatively impacts test day efficiency.

I have read and accept the terms of the agreement including customer responsibilities: Fire Catt, LLC will inspect, and service test all noted equipment in accordance with the standards of NFPA as set forth. It is expressly understood and agreed that Fire Catt shall not be deemed or held liable, obligated, or accountable upon or under any guarantees or warranties, express or implied, statutory, by operation of the law, or otherwise, relative to the use of any tested equipment immediately after the date of inspection. Furthermore, Fire Catt, will not be held liable, obligated, or accountable for any equipment that fails during the testing under specified conditions and pressures. Testing methods used may be protected under the United States Patent Number 8,554,497.

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Danko Emergency Equipment**

PO Box 218
302 E 4th Street
Snyder, NE 68664-0218 USA
Phone: 402-568-2200
sales@danko.net
www.danko.net

Estimate No: 34243**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

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*Account Address:***Attention:****COLUMBUS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

ATTN: FINANCE
PO BOX 1677
COLUMBUS, NE 68602-1677

*Shipping Address:***COLUMBUS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

4630 HOWARD BLVD
COLUMBUS, NE 68601

Ship Via	Shipping Terms	Prices are Valid Until	
SALESMEN DELIVERY	Freight Will Be Added To The Invoice	Friday, April 11, 2025	

Line #	Part ID:	Description	Qty	Price	Extended
		Freight Will Be Added To The Invoice			
1	DES-PTS-4-NA	PUMP TEST, 4 UNITS - DOES NOT INCLUDE TRIP CHARGE, NON-ANNUAL - MOBILE SERVICE	4.00	325.00	1,300.00
2	DES-TRIP	MOBILE SERVICE TRIP CHARGE - KYLE - TRIP CHARGE DIVIDED BETWEEN 5 DEPARTMENTS	1.00	15.00	15.00
3	DES-FSC	FUEL SURCHARGE - DIVIDED BETWEEN 5 DEPARTMENTS	1.00	15.00	15.00
4	MISC	MISC - UPON ARRIVAL TO THE TEST SITE, 1-HOUR WILL BE ALLOCATED FOR SET-UP TIME - TRUCKS MUST BE AVAILABLE AND READY FOR TESTING AT THE LOCATION OF DANKO'S TEST TRAILER - TIME WILL BE ALLOTTED AT THE RATE OF 1.5 HOUR PER TRUCK FOR PUMP TESTING - ANY ADDITIONAL TIME SPENT TESTING, LOCATING, MOVING OR WAITING FOR TRUCKS WILL BE BILLED OUT AT THE RATE OF \$145.00 PER HOUR - IF A PUMP EXHIBITS DEFICIENCIES DURING TESTING, AND THE REASON CANNOT BE DIAGNOSED AND REPAIRED WITHIN 10 MINUTES AND THE TRUCK IS PULLED FROM TESTING - THE CUSTOMER WILL BE CHARGED A LABOR RATE OF \$145.00 PER HOUR FOR TESTING THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED - THE NEXT TRUCK WILL TAKE ITS PLACE - IF A TRUCK FAILS A COMPLETED PUMP TEST - PUMP TEST FEE WILL STILL APPLY - ADDITIONAL SERVICE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO - DIAGNOSTICS AND REPAIRS - MUST BE SCHEDULED FOR A LATER DATE - HOWEVER, IF TIME IS AVAILABLE IN THE TECHNICIANS SCHEDULE AND WITH PROPER AUTHORIZATION FROM DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT - TECHNICIAN WILL DIAGNOSE THE REASON FOR FAILURE - AND POSSIBLY REPAIR FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$145.00 PER HOUR FOR LABOR - PARTS COST WILL APPLY - UPON COMPLETION OF REPAIRS - A PUMP TEST MUST BE PERFORMED - A PUMP TEST FEE WILL BE APPLIED FOR EACH TRUCK NEEDING RE TESTING	1.00	0.00	0.00

Contact

Salesperson: Aly Young
Contact Phone:
Email: service@danko.net

Sub Total	\$1,330.00
Tax	\$0.00
Total Price	\$1,330.00

*** Price(s) Subject to Change**