

# A-C Fire Pump Provides Turnkey Fire Pump Package for Air Force

When the Army Corps of Engineers wanted to put up a new hangar at Hurlburt Field in Florida to house MH-53J helicopters used by U.S. Special Forces, fire protection was a primary concern. ITT Industries' A-C Fire Pump unit provided that protection in a turnkey fire pump package.

With volatile fuel, stores of ammunition, and very expensive rotary and fixed-wing aircraft, an Air Force base is a place where fire is a peril of extreme danger. The original specifications for the fire protection scheme called for a pump structure consisting concrete block, to be fabricated in the field. A-C Fire Pump sold the Corps of Engineers on a unique concept, which included a prefabricated metal building with all of the fire pump equipment mounted in place by a single manufacturer.

The Corps embraced the idea for its simplicity. A-C Fire Pump then set to work building the largest packaged fire pump house ever assembled. The building measured 53' long by 16' wide and 12' 5" high and weighed in at over 60,000 pounds. The fire pump house was packaged with three 8100 Series split case pumps powered by 300 horse-power motors and controllers. The piping layout included provision for flow measurement through a hose valve test header and 10" flow meter.

Getting the pump house out the door and down to Florida produced some unusual challenges. The roof has a 16" over-hang around the entire perimeters of the building to match the standard building requirements at Hurlburt. This made the pump house too large to fit through the doorway at the factory. The pump house roof had to be constructed out-doors. Placed aboard an 80' tractor/trailer for shipping, the pump house had to negotiate a labyrinthine maze of streets in Northern Cincinnati to avoid low bridges. On its way to Florida, it required front and rear escorts and numerous special permits. Jeff Hoop, applications engineer at A-C Fire Pump notes that "The Corps of Engineers is now very open to this packaging concept. The idea that the pump manufacturer assumes unit responsibility for the entire pumping package was paramount in their decision. The contractor for this project, who in the past has viewed these packaged fire pump hoses with suspect, is very pleased with the outcome and wants to consider future applications."



The turnkey fire pump house from A-C Fire Pump measured 53' long by 16' wide and 12' 5" high and was packaged with three 8100 Series split case pumps powered by 300 horsepower motors and controllers.

The packaged pump house also has great potential in emerging markets where the lack of skilled labor to construct a pump house will lead engineering firms to consider this turnkey option.



For over 80 years, A-C Fire Pump has been on the fore-front in developing, designing, and custom-building a wide range of fire pump systems including prefabricated packages and house units that meet every fire protection need.