

# ORCHID BEACH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Orchid Beach M.S. 2173, Rainbow Beach, Qld. 4581.

ABN:23409428236

Chairman: Les Sainsbury (07) 38002970

1<sup>st</sup> Officer: Paul Fishburn (07) 41279129

Secretary: Bill Molineux (07) 41279441

2<sup>nd</sup> Officer: Keith Nimmo (07) 41279210

Treasurer: Jeanette Fishburn (07) 41279129

13<sup>th</sup> December 2015

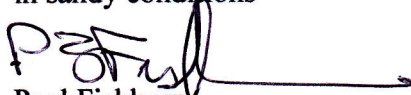
## Testimonial:

The Orchid Beach Rural Fire Brigade carries out planned asset protection burns within the Orchid Beach Township on the Northern Part of Fraser Island. The Brigade also assists Queensland Parks and Wildlife in planned burns and wildfire suppression operations throughout Fraser Island. Virtually all firebreaks and roads are sand with very rare boarded sections. Many of the firebreaks have steep sections which in dry conditions require considerable reduction in tyre pressures even in the Light Attack V8 Turbo Diesel Landcruisers.

In June 2008 the Brigade took delivery of an Isuzu Medium Attack Appliance. Fitted with the standard truck tyres, the Brigade replaced these with 19.5 inch wheels and truck tyres to make the vehicle more suitable for the sand conditions. Even with the wider tyres and reducing tyre pressures the vehicle could only be used in very limited areas within and around the township and in dry conditions could even bog down on flat ground. The Executive Committee of the Brigade decided to investigate possibilities in relation to fitting wider tyres and installing a lift kit. After discussions with Kym Bolton of Goanna Tracks Overland Expeditions Pty Ltd it was decided to install a lift kit and fit 17 by 9 inch wheels and Hankook 37x12.5 R17 Dynapro MT tyres.

The Brigade carried out a number of test drives in very soft sand conditions and steep slopes including the steepest section of firebreak near the township. The Brigade is absolutely delighted with the improvement these tyres and rims made to operation of the Isuzu. Even on the steepest sand track these tyres operated effortlessly with a minimum of strain on the vehicle. The Brigade is now confident that we can now operate this vehicle on any of the roads and firebreaks on Fraser Island.

The Brigade confidently recommends the use of these tyres and rims to anyone operating in sandy conditions



Paul Fishburn  
First Officer.



Keith Nimmo  
Second Officer.