

Equipment Monitoring Report (April 2009 - March 2011)

IRM

Monitoring

A significant part of producing an effective and efficient organisation is continual monitoring. In this case monitoring of equipment allows West Midlands Fire Service to evaluate if the equipment is being used if so how it is being used and if the business rules for the piece of equipment are accurate. For example is the target attendance time for this piece of equipment realistic?

The data used to monitor this equipment is drawn from the Oracle database and then analysed within excel. This report concentrates on usage during 1st April 2009 until 31st March 2011.

The pieces of equipment this report will discuss are:

- Detection, Monitoring and Identification (DIM)
- Bobcat
- Cobra
- High Volume Pump (HVP)
- Technical Rescue

Detection Identification Monitoring

The Detection Identification and Monitoring support team (DIM) is a team of 12 people with specialist skills and equipment. The equipment the DIM team are able to:

- Asbestos detection and evaluation
- Take video footage (body worn camera & Isis) - thermal imaging, video and high quality stills
- Identify unknowns - suspicious powders, spillages on the road etc
- Monitor hazardous environments (toxic, radioactive, flammable etc)



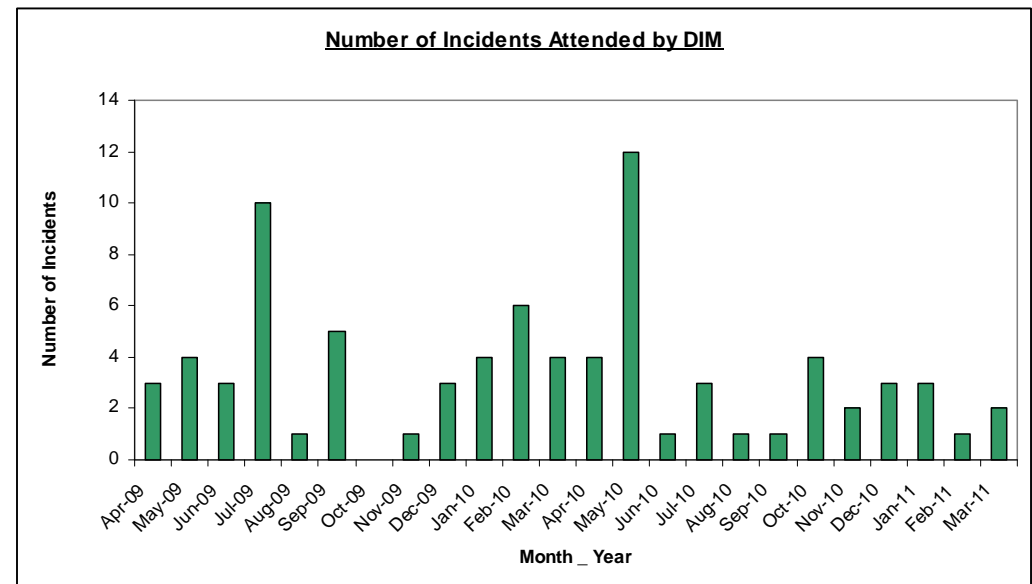
(Figure 1)

ISiS (Figure 1) is a high endurance remotely operated aircraft suitable for taking aerial imagery in the form of video or high quality stills.

The DIM team's specialist knowledge and equipment contribute to a safer working environment for West Midlands Fire Service personal.

During 1st April 2009 until 31st March 2011 DIM responded to 81 incidents. This usage is fairly sporadic ranging from 0 times in October 2009 to 12 times in May 2010. Since May 2010 the usage of DIM has been infrequent especially when compared to the previous year. The average number of incidents per month was approximately 3.38.

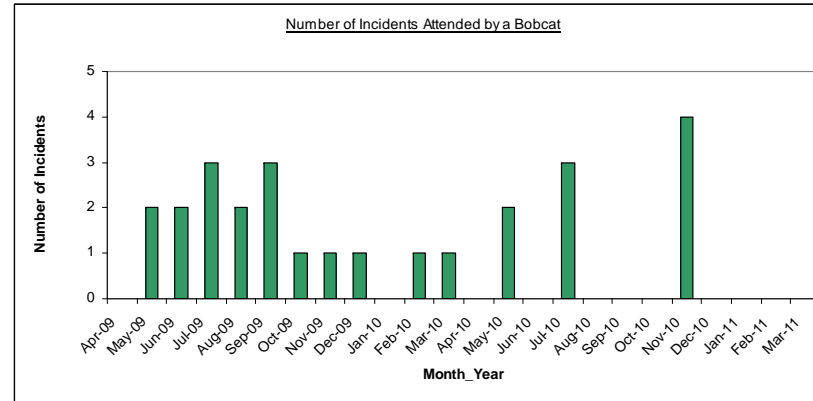
The DIM capabilities allowed these incidents to be dealt with quickly and effectively, reducing impacts upon the community.



(Figure 2)

Bobcat

Month	Number of Incidents Attended by a Bobcat
Apr-09	0
May-09	2
Jun-09	2
Jul-09	3
Aug-09	2
Sep-09	3
Oct-09	1
Nov-09	1
Dec-09	1
Jan-10	0
Feb-10	1
Mar-10	1
Apr-10	0
May-10	2
Jun-10	0
Jul-10	3
Aug-10	0
Sep-10	0
Oct-10	0
Nov-10	4
Dec-10	0
Jan-11	0
Feb-11	0
Mar-11	0
Total	26



(Figure 3)



(Figure 4)

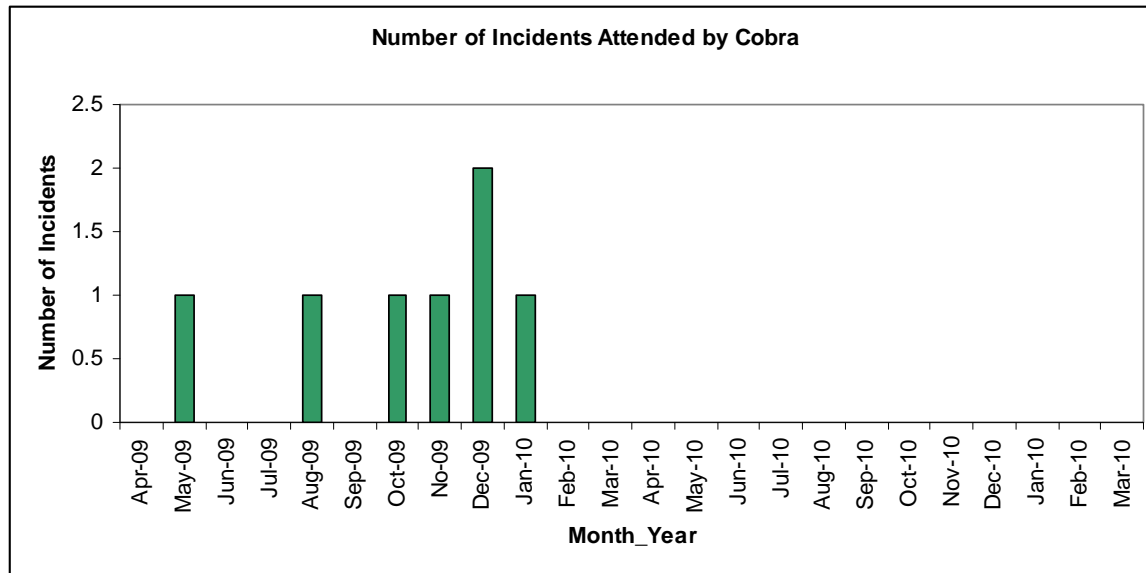
The Bobcat is a small vehicle which is used to remove debris to either access a blocked location or to remove debris after an incident. It is based at Smethwick Community Fire Station. The Bobcat is transported to incidents by Prime Movers which are flat bed lorries designed to carry various pieces of West Midlands Fire Service' specialist equipment.

During April 2009 and March 2011 the bobcat was mobilised sporadically. During May 2009 and December 2009 the Bobcat was used every month. However since August 2010 the bobcat has been mobilised just 4 times and that was during a one month period (November 2010).

(Table 1)

Cobra

Cobra is a piece of fire fighting equipment which is a water cutting and fire fighting system. Cobra can cut through metal, concrete, wood and glass. West Midlands Fire Service has 1 Cobra system which is located at Highgate Community Fire Station.



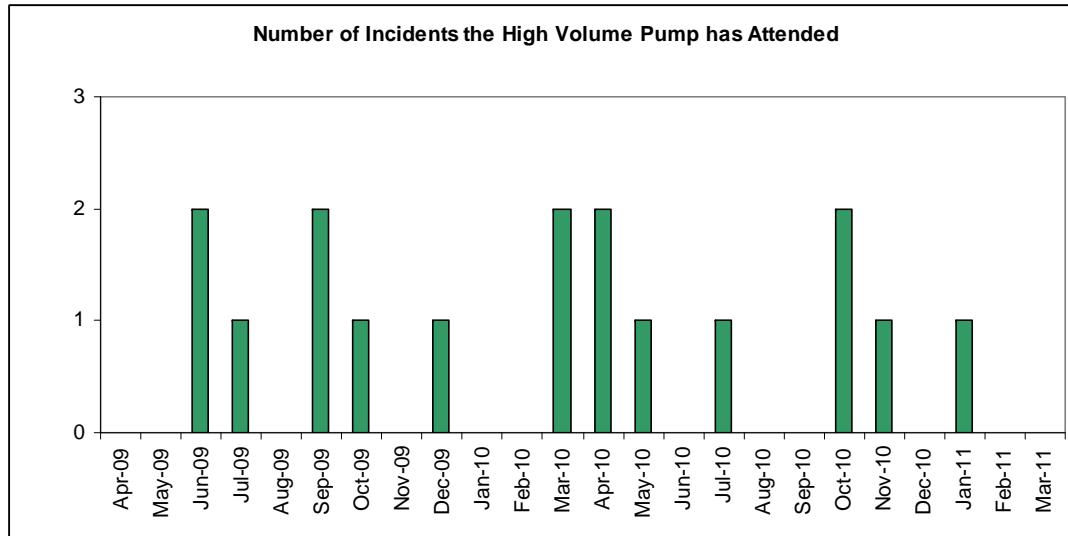
(Figure 5)

Cobra was used very little during the period analysed (7 occasions). Between April 2009 and January 2010 Cobra was used sporadically however between February 2010 and April 2011 Cobra was not mobilised. In most instances Cobra is used during large scale fires such as factory fires.

Month	Number of Incidents Attended by Cobra
Apr-09	0
May-09	1
Jun-09	0
Jul-09	0
Aug-09	1
Sep-09	0
Oct-09	1
Nov-09	1
Dec-09	2
Jan-10	1
Feb-10	0
Mar-10	0
Apr-10	0
May-10	0
Jun-10	0
Jul-10	0
Aug-10	0
Sep-10	0
Oct-10	0
Nov-10	0
Dec-10	0
Jan-11	0
Feb-11	0
Mar-11	0
Total	7

(Table 2)

High Volume Pump



(Figure 6)

The High Volume Pump (HVP) was provided, as part of the New Dimension package by the Communities and Local Government department (previously Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, ODPM) to the UK Fire and Rescue Authorities. The HVP has enhanced the West Midlands Fire Service's capability to move large quantities of water. This can be either used for extracting or delivering water to an incident and is therefore used for both flooding incidents and incidents which require vast amounts of water.

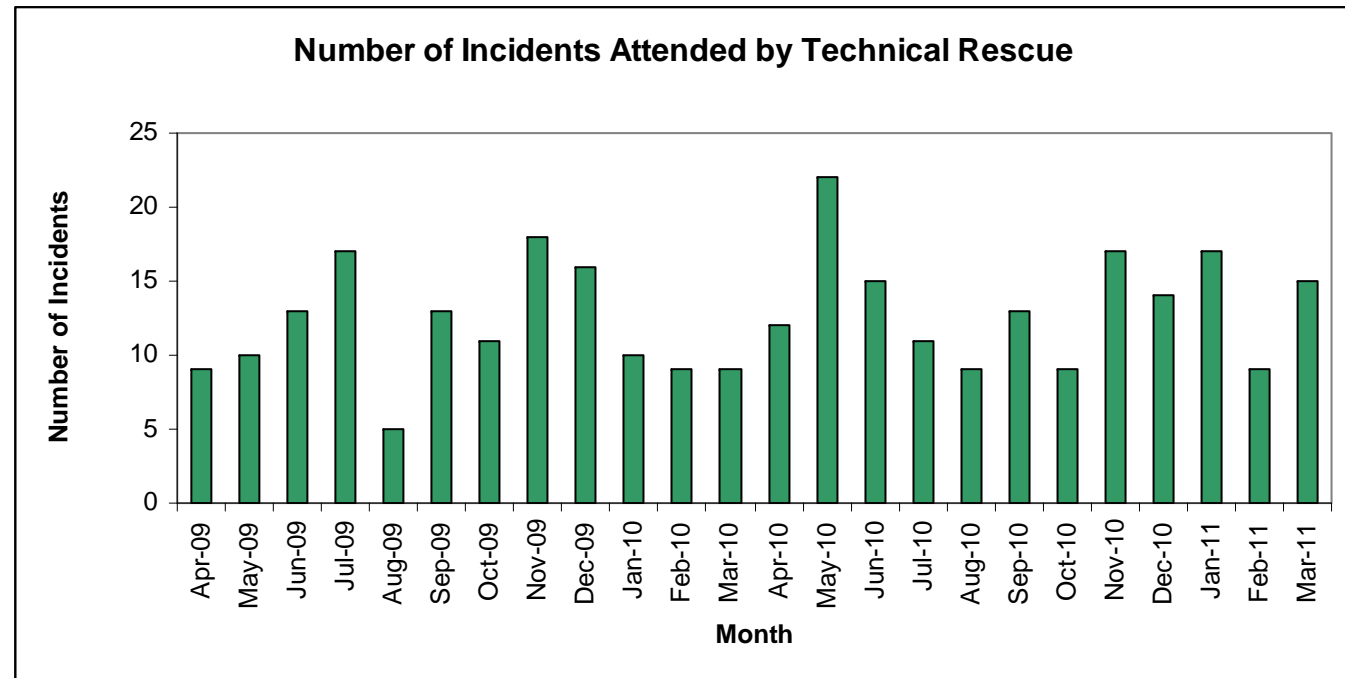
Month	Number of Incidents Attended by HVP
Apr-09	0
May-09	0
Jun-09	2
Jul-09	1
Aug-09	0
Sep-09	2
Oct-09	1
Nov-09	0
Dec-09	1
Jan-10	0
Feb-10	0
Mar-10	2
Apr-10	2
May-10	1
Jun-10	0
Jul-10	1
Aug-10	0
Sep-10	0
Oct-10	2
Nov-10	1
Dec-10	0
Jan-11	1
Feb-11	0
Mar-11	0
Total	17

(Table 3)

The HVP has been used sporadically during the time analysed. Since February 2008 the HVP has been used to reduce the number of fire engines mobilised for providing water at an incident, this reduces WMFS' carbon footprint by sending 1 vehicle as opposed to multiple vehicles.

Technical Rescue

Month	Number of Incidents Attended by Technical Rescue
Apr-09	9
May-09	10
Jun-09	13
Jul-09	17
Aug-09	5
Sep-09	13
Oct-09	11
Nov-09	18
Dec-09	16
Jan-10	10
Feb-10	9
Mar-10	9
Apr-10	12
May-10	22
Jun-10	15
Jul-10	11
Aug-10	9
Sep-10	13
Oct-10	9
Nov-10	17
Dec-10	14
Jan-11	17
Feb-11	9
Mar-11	15
Total	303



(Figure 7)

Technical Rescue are a specialist team within West Midlands Fire Service. Their specialist training enables them to rescue people using rope rescue, water rescue and heavy rescue (people trapped in collapsed structures).

Between April 2009 and March 2011 Technical Rescue attended 303 incidents which is on average of approximately 12.63 deployments a month.

(Table 4)