

# Media Release



2011 – 017

Immediate Release

Tuesday 13 December 2011

## More firey's graduate in the ACT

ACT Fire & Rescue today welcomed a further 16 new firefighters to its service with the second college intake for 2011 at the ESA Outdoor Training Centre at Hume.

“Recruit College 34 has now successfully completed an intensive 90-day training course and I would like to congratulate and welcome them to the frontline”, ACT Fire & Rescue Chief Officer Paul Swain said.

“It is a positive boost to ACT Fire & Rescue to ensure the emergency response capability remains strong and continue to be prepared for natural and manmade disasters,” he said.

“As the most versatile fire service in Australia, there are many tasks ACT Fire & Rescue firefighters carry out when on duty. These include fire fighting, motor vehicle accident recovery, urban search and rescue as well as handling hazardous material incidents.”

The ACT Fire & Rescue Recruit College 34 began on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2011.

“Only the very best are selected to undertake this three month comprehensive training”, ACT Fire & Rescue Chief Officer Paul Swain said.

“Applications were received from across Australia and residents of the ACT should rest assured that today’s new recruits will continue ACT Fire & Rescue’s high standards of serving the community,” he said.

“During the year we have seen how ACT Fire & Rescue are called to duty across the Canberra community with events like the Mitchell Chemical fire and even lend support with operational deployments to Japan and New Zealand following natural disasters,” he said.

“These 16 men who have graduated today can now further enhance their skills with future on the job training.

“I wish them every success with their new career as they play in the role of protecting the community”.

Today’s 16 new recruits bring the total of fire fighting personnel for ACT Fire & Rescue to 344.