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Blackmer® Donates TLGLF3C Sliding Vane Pump To First-Of-Its-Kind Wounded Warrior Project LPG Bobtail

Grand Rapids, MI – The many causes devoted to breast-cancer awareness and prevention have received an undoubtedly unique boost in recent years from the eye-catching pink bobtails and transport trailers that a growing number of LPG marketers have commissioned. These bobtails not only heighten the awareness of breast cancer, but the funds raised by them go to worthwhile organizations like the American Breast Cancer Foundation's "Fuel for Hope" campaign and the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation.

Noting this growing trend, Mark Callahan, owner of Callahan's Gas & Appliance in Centreville, MD, just knew that this was an idea that could work well for other causes. In business for 73 years, Callahan's Gas began as a seller and servicer of household appliances and has branched out over the years into residential propane deliveries.



"Breast-cancer research is a phenomenal thing for people to give to and I noticed the pink trucks were becoming more and more common," said Callahan. "I said there's got to be something else we can do where you can mark up your truck, give it some panache, make it stand out and, at the same time, have it do something that does good for the community and makes your customers also feel good about it."

With a background in the military, Callahan struck upon the idea of contacting the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP), Jacksonville, FL, to see if they would be interested in partnering on an LPG bobtail that would benefit the project's mission, which is to honor and empower wounded warriors, and make them the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in the nation's history. The WWP's signature program involves creating backpacks that are filled with essential care and comfort items that are delivered bedside to wounded military personnel.

Callahan took this idea to Roger Smith, Vice President of Marketing and Propane Sales for Kurtz Truck Equipment. Kurtz is a fabricator and builder of propane bobtails and cylinder bodies based in Marathon, NY.

"We had been talking for one or two years about building a special bobtail and then Mark told me that he would like to do one for the Wounded Warrior Project, which I had never heard of," said Smith. "I did some research and found that it is a great cause that is doing great work for a lot of our military men and women."

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The result is a 3,499-gallon LPG bobtail—the third vehicle in the Callahan’s Gas fleet—that features the Wounded Warrior Project logo and a camouflage-style vinyl body wrap that is adorned with eagles and soldiers.

“This is our first time doing something like this and, as far as I can tell, this is the first propane-delivery truck that has been involved in the Wounded Warrior Project,” said Smith.

The project couldn’t have been completed without the help of a wide range of equipment suppliers who donated parts or offered them at discounted prices. Once the truck hits the road, for every gallon of propane that is pumped by the bobtail, one cent will be donated to WWP. In addition, the money saved by Callahan in the form of the discounted equipment prices will be donated to the WWP.

Blackmer®, which has donated pumps to numerous breast-cancer awareness vehicles over the years, offered a Model TLGLF3C Propane Pump and BV2 Bypass Valve for Callahan’s WWP bobtail. The TLGLF3C is a 3-inch pump that fits the needs of propane suppliers because they are designed to flange mount directly to a commercial internal control valve in combination with the tank of a bobtail. This direct mounting eliminates the need for inlet pipes, shutoff valves and external strainers that can restrict flow and cause vaporization. The pumps have an internal relief valve and patented cavitation suppression liners that reduce vibration and wear that can affect performance and shorten pump life. They are also equipped with a double-ended drive shaft for clockwise or counterclockwise rotation.



“The biggest thing I like about Blackmer is that I don’t have to think about Blackmer,” said Callahan. “When you worry too much about a specific part of your truck, that means that specific part of the truck isn’t working. We got our first delivery truck in the 1970s and ever since I’ve been doing this I’ve been tickled pink with Blackmer.”

For additional information on Blackmer TLGLF Series Pumps, please go to www.blackmer.com. For more information on the Wounded Warrior Project, visit www.woundedwarriorproject.org. Blackmer is a member of Dover Corporation’s Pump Solutions Group (PSG™). For more information on PSG and its member companies, visit www.pumpsolutions.com.

Blackmer® is the leading global provider of innovative and high-quality rotary vane pump, centrifugal pump and reciprocating compressor technologies for the transfer of liquids and gasses. For more than a century, the Blackmer name has stood for unparalleled product performance, superior services and support, well-timed innovation and a commitment to total customer satisfaction. Supported by a worldwide network of distributors and original equipment manufacturers, Blackmer pumps and compressors are used in a multitude of applications in the Process, Energy, Transport and Military-Marine markets. Blackmer—headquartered in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA—is a member of Dover Corporation’s Pump Solutions Group (PSG™).

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