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Pine Bend Refinery Fire Department Marks 25 Years

Premier training facility and partnerships celebrated

Rosemount, Minn. – On Saturday, August 27, Flint Hills Resources’ Pine Bend refinery celebrated the silver jubilee of its two-house fire department. When it was first established in the early 1990s, the Pine Bend refinery had six firefighters. Today, the department has 132 firefighters, including 87 volunteers. The highly-trained fire department works year-round to keep the refinery and its employees safe. [Click here](#) to view photos from Saturday’s celebration.

“Not every oil refinery has its own fire department, and we’re especially proud because ours is among the best in the industry,” said Jon Carlson, manufacturing manager of the Pine Bend refinery. “The Pine Bend fire department not only helps keep our employees and our facility safe, they also collaborate with mutual aid partners to promote public safety in the broader community.”

Over the last 25 years, the Pine Bend refinery fire department has become a premier training facility. Pine Bend regularly provides mutual aid industrial fire training to firefighters from the Rosemount, Eagan, Inver Grove Heights, and Hastings fire departments, who have been using the refinery’s fire training grounds for free since 1991. The refinery’s fire training grounds also host departments from across the Midwest for dozens of free trainings every year. [Click here](#) to view a photo from a recent training session.

“The Pine Bend refinery fire department goes above and beyond for our community,” added Eagan Fire Chief Mike Scott. “From providing scholarships for our firefighters to hosting specialized training sessions to donating a top-of-the-line kitchen fire safety demonstration trailer, Pine Bend has always been a generous, reliable partner.”

“We don’t just talk about safety at Pine Bend, we put it into action every day – and our department is an excellent example of that,” said Pete Herpst, fire chief of the Pine Bend fire department. “Countless individuals have helped grow this department into the world-class operation that it is today. I am proud to celebrate this milestone with our team of dedicated and hard-working firefighters.”

About Flint Hills Resources

Flint Hills Resources’ Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota’s gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a capacity of 339,000 barrels per day and is among the cleanest, most efficient, and

safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion on upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With 1,300 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the company is available at pinebendrefinery.com.

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