Trailer, Fire Fighting: Pumper; Water Extinguishing Agent
1500 GPM Propeller Pump, Sabre Model TT-5110

By Ted Heinbuch

The Sabre Fire Fighting Trailer was designed to be towed behind the Class 1500 Crash Truck to increase the truck's water capacity and was manufactured by Sabre Metal Products Inc.   The water, electrical, and airbrake systems were connected to, and operated from the crash truck. The aluminum water tank held 2000 gallons of water and was divided into three compartments by two bulkheads, which served as baffles to prevent sudden shifting of the water load. The 1,500 gpm water pump was driven by a 24 volt, 12 hp electric motor which was controlled from the crash truck via a slave cable. The trailer pump was entirely automatic. A float switch installed in the truck water tank energizes the trailer pump when the water in the truck tank drops to ¾ full. Water

is pumped through the two 5 inch suction hoses into the fire pump suction connections at the rear of the crash truck. When the trailer tank is empty its float switch de-energizes the electric pump and the fire truck draws the balance of the water from the truck tank. If the rate of discharge from the fire pump is less than 1500 gpm, surplus water from the trailer flows in the truck water tank. When the truck tank is ¾ full the float switch will shut of the electric trailer pump. There is no interruption in pumping when changing from one tank to the other, thus providing for an uninterrupted 3000 gallon discharge at the desired flow.

The trailer was equipped with an electric heater which circulated warm air throughout the interior of the trailer and warm water through piping in the water tank. The trailer jack was hand operated through a small hydraulic pump and the trailer was equipped with air brakes which were supplied with air from connections on the rear of the crash truck. Both the crash truck and fire fighting trailer were equipped with 16.00 x 25 flotation type military tires. Army records indicate only 8 of the fire fighting trailers were produced.

EMC 4210-201-12/1