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This flyer has been created by German Chief Fire Officers Association (AGBF Bund) and German Fire Services Association (DFV).

## The German Fire Services Association

With 1.3 million of professional and volunteer firefighters, youth firefighters and plant firefighters in 33.000 fire stations throughout the country, the German fire brigades build a strong community and are a reliable partner for security. The general defense against risks takes in account the close urban settlement in Germany and delivers an effective help to all citizens wherever they are.

Without technical exchanges, common actions and a reinforced representation of interests, the German Fire Services Association would not be as it looks like now – effective, competent and reliable, and also endowed with an important part of auto-responsibility by the firefighters and their leaders. The Fire Services Association in cities, districts and in the whole country have always contributed to the organization and to the success of this system.

The German Fire Services Association gathers and represents interests of its members: 16 regional federations of firefighters and the representation of professional and plant fire brigades. 14 special departments, partly in cooperation with the German Fire Protection Association (vfdb) and the German Chief Fire Officers Association (AGBF Bund), analyze problems and results in ad hoc-working teams, accompany developments, prepare technical positions and concepts for the firefighters' work and for the representation of their interests.

Photos:

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**AGBF bund**

  
**DEUTSCHER  
FEUERWEHR  
VERBAND**



**Fire brigades in rescue services –  
communal, strong, in touch with  
the people!**



## Firefighters in rescue services

Communal, strong, in touch with the people: more than 100 professional fire brigades and scores of volunteer fire brigades provide emergency rescue service in Germany. Emergency rescue concerns every rescue operation where rapid medical assistance is needed – from bone fracture to poisoning, from resuscitation to birth.



## Effective in formation and further education

Nationwide, there are 36 firefighter-schools for emergency medical technicians as well as 25 schools for paramedics, offering a practical and well-founded formation.

The encouraging result of this intensive work are 900 emergency medical technicians and nearly 800 paramedics, who complete these schools of the fire brigades annually.

In addition, advanced training and further education are being offered – such as the education as trainer for paramedics, disinfectant or rescue service organizational commander.

## Facts and figures

- 19.000 paramedics and 9.000 emergency medical technicians work as part of fire brigades in Germany.
- Fire brigades' ambulances are alerted for 1.800.000 operations every year.
- Added to this, there are 670.000 operations with emergency doctor's vehicles and respectively the emergency ambulances.

## Tradition of rescue services

The fire services as a pillar of the rescue services have a long and successful tradition. Already in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, for example, the fire brigades in Lübeck and Hanover provided medical care.

In 1899, the professional fire brigade of Cologne operated for the first time with two horse-drawn carriages, which were available around the clock. 1.600 sick and injured people were being transported during the first year.



Many other cities established rescue services during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Rescue services aren't only given distinction by tradition; milestones have been constantly set and are still taking effect today. For example in 1966, when the fire brigade in Munich began to bring an emergency doctor to the scene of accident – a novelty at that time.

Today, more than 60 percent of the fire brigades with full-time force help their citizens in the case of a medical emergency and stay available 24 hours a day – with fast, competent and reliable help.

- Daily, 650 ambulances, 250 emergency doctor's vehicles and 190 patient transport ambulances are used by fire brigades throughout Germany.
- Furthermore, the fire brigades dispose of many special vehicles, for example emergency ambulances for babies, for the transport of patients with infectious diseases and intensive care transports.