

Kawak Aviation Technologies Inc. Highlights Advanced Cascade Firefighting Bucket Following Industry Recognition

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Kawak Aviation Technologies Inc., a Bend, Oregon-based aerospace manufacturer specializing in aerial firefighting equipment, is drawing renewed attention to its innovative Cascade Aerial Firefighting Bucket system following recent industry recognition and the ongoing wildfire recovery efforts across Southern California.

The company's flagship firefighting technology gained prominence when Kawak Aviation Technologies featured in AerialFire Magazine on January 17, 2026, highlighting the system's proven capabilities in combating increasingly severe wildfire threats. The recognition comes as fire agencies continue assessing aerial suppression strategies following the devastating January 2025 Southern California wildfires, which burned over 37,000 acres and destroyed thousands of structures in the Palisades and Eaton Fire areas.

The Cascade Aerial Firefighting Bucket represents a significant advancement in helicopter-based fire

suppression technology. The system incorporates multi-drop capability, allowing pilots to make strategic water releases across fire lines without returning to refill stations. Its fast dip-fill technology dramatically reduces refill times, while the collapsible design enables easy transport between deployment locations. The bucket's power fill feature allows water collection from shallow sources previously inaccessible to conventional systems, expanding operational flexibility in challenging terrain.

Key technical specifications include high-flow refill pumps capable of processing up to 1,600 gallons per minute and precise electric linear valve control for accurate water placement. These features have proven particularly valuable for helicopter crews operating platforms such as the Firehawk, enabling faster initial attack response times and improved containment strategies.

"The evolving wildfire landscape demands equipment that can adapt to rapidly changing conditions while maintaining absolute reliability," said a spokesperson for Kawak Aviation Technologies Inc. "Our Cascade system addresses the critical need for faster refill times and more precise water delivery, which directly translates to improved containment rates and enhanced firefighter safety. The feedback from agencies like LA County Fire and Cal Fire has validated our engineering approach to reducing pilot workload while maximizing suppression effectiveness."

The system's operational benefits extend beyond technical specifications. Fire agencies report measurable efficiency gains, including reduced hover time during refill operations, superior drop pattern control, and decreased pilot fatigue during extended firefighting missions. These improvements contribute to enhanced overall safety for both air crews and ground personnel working in coordination during suppression efforts.

With over three decades of experience in aviation innovation, Kawak Aviation Technologies has established itself as a provider of mission-critical equipment for aerial firefighting operations worldwide. The company's product portfolio spans fixed and rotary wing aircraft applications, serving markets including aerial agriculture, helicopter firefighting, forestry, and government operations. Their engineering and manufacturing capabilities encompass hydraulic systems, propulsion systems, aircraft retrofitting, and specialized firefighting system design.

As wildfire seasons intensify and expand globally, the demand for advanced aerial suppression tools continues to grow. The Cascade Aerial Firefighting Bucket represents one response to this challenge, offering fire agencies enhanced capabilities for protecting communities and natural resources from increasingly severe wildfire threats.

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Kawak Aviation Technologies Inc.

Headquartered in Bend, Oregon, Kawak is an aviation technology and innovation engineering company. Kawak specializes in helicopter firefighting, aerial agriculture, flight control quadrants, and auxiliary mission power systems.

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