



## Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District

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April 28, 1997

1997 NAEVT Awards Program Committee  
29 Stillman Road  
P.O. Box 97  
Lynnfield, MA 01940-0097

Dear Honorable NAVET Award Committee Members:

I would like to add my name to the list of individuals nominating Tim Wirfs for the Technician of the Year Award. Please allow me to share my experience with you concerning Tim's excellent record with our department.

First, I must give you some background information about me and the department I work for. I am the fleet manager/mechanic for the Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District, a position I have held for the past six years. I am a certified emergency vehicle technician level II, ASE master car and truck technician, and a student welder. Prior to taking the responsibility for fleet maintenance, I was a firefighter/paramedic/engineer for fourteen years. Throughout this time I have gained much experience with various types of fire apparatus, both new and old.

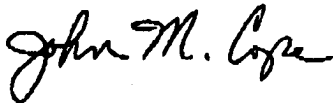
As you can imagine, over this period of years our department has seen its share of problems with vehicles. In the past it has always been our policy to repair our own trucks when possible. However, at times problems arise that are outside the scope of our shop's abilities, tools or facility. This is where Tim Wirfs and Wirfs Industries come into play. When the need arises, this is one service outlet I can count on. Over the past years whenever we have taken a vehicle to Wirfs Industries, the work completed, has always been exemplary, finished on time, and for the price stated prior to beginning the job. These are each important factors when considering using an outside source for service; however, there is one consideration that far exceeds the rest. For me, this is the competence and attention to detail that the technicians exhibit. At Wirfs Industries this has never been a concern for me. Tim, his technicians and fabricators all display the utmost in professionalism and their work shows it. I am sure you have heard the saying "a picture is worth a thousand words" or "the proof is in the pudding." Well, in this case Tim's shop and offices are the picture of organization and the welds and repairs are the "proof in the pudding." We have never had any doubts concerning fabrication or repair work done by Tim or his men.

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In closing, there is one last thing to add. As I stated earlier I am a mechanic and from time to time while working on a piece of equipment I have found myself stuck on a problem. The kind of thing where you would like to have some input from someone who has been where you are now. At these times I have called on Tim and Wirfs Industries for help, something he always offers freely This is a rare thing in this day and age where it is becoming increasingly more difficult to be profitable in business. However, Tim has always taken time from his busy schedule to listen to a problem and offer suggestions. To me this marks a true professional.

I believe Tim Wirfs to be a worthy recipient of the Technician of the Year Award, not only for his skills as mechanic and weldor, but also for his selfless dedication to the fire service as a whole.

Sincerely,



John M. Cope  
Fleet Manager  
Deerfield-Bannockburn  
Fire Protection District