


# Memo

**To:** Dawn Caldwell  
**From:** Kent A. Adams, Fire Chief   
**Date:** August 23, 2024  
**Re:** Request to Waive Bids - Sole Source  
MAKO Breathing Air Module Compressor - \$43,295.00

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Included in the 2024-2025 Fire Department budget, are approved funds in the amount of \$70,000 to purchase a replacement air compressor to fill the bottles of the department's self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

The department has been pleased with the performance of MAKO Compressors and desires to replace the existing MAKO with another one of their compressors for numerous reasons. It will allow the standardization among the other existing air compressors throughout the department's stations. The maintenance schedules, adapters, accessories, fill stations, replacement parts and supplies will be the same for all fire department compressors. Most importantly, the department members will not have to learn the nuances and use of a different type and brand of compressor. The process of filling air bottles will be the same no matter which station's compressor you are using.

Also, Air One is the supplier and maintenance vendor for our SCBA's as well as our air compressors. In fact, Air One is the sole authorized public safety distributor for MAKO products which includes sales and service within the Chicago metropolitan area. The department has a long and established relationship with Air One.

MAKO specializes in breathing air systems which are utilized in the municipal fire, industrial safety, dive and government markets worldwide since 1952. They ensure that there is no risk of contamination to the air used to fill firefighter air bottles. In reality, breathing air, SCBA and the system (compressor) used to fill the bottles are the most important components for firefighters surviving in unsustainable environments.

The fire department requests the waiving of the bid process for the purchase of an air compressor manufactured by MAKO Compressors, Inc. and sold by their sole distributor Air One, Inc. of South Elgin for the cost of \$43,295.00

*Needs UB approval.*



cc: Christi Jacobson