

## **Cloudburst Fire Bucket Expands U.S. and Canadian Footprint through BOOST Systems Partnership**

**New Zealand, December 10, 2025** – [IMS New Zealand Ltd.](#), the company behind the Cloudburst Fire Bucket, has strengthened its presence in the USA and Canadian helicopter firefighting market through a new partnership with North Vancouver-based BOOST Human External Cargo Systems. Under the agreement, BOOST will serve as the exclusive USA and Canadian representative for Cloudburst products, providing localized sales support, technical expertise, and in-region inventory for operators.

The partnership comes as IMS introduces its latest Monsoon Valve technology, a development designed to integrate seamlessly with BOOST's Quick Release Cargo Basket. The new valve retains Cloudburst Fire Buckets multi-drop capability while improving discharge flow rates and performance, which can make a tangible difference for helicopter crews tasked with protecting communities from increasingly severe wildfires.

"We're already seeing the benefits for operators in North America," said Richard Lane, founder and CEO of IMS. "Through BOOST, we can deliver faster support and ensure equipment is available where and when it's needed. Having a strong partner like BOOST, who understands both external load operations and the firefighting market, is a real advantage for us and our customers."

This fire season, the USA/Canadian customer base is expanding, with multiple 1,000-litre (263-gallon) Cloudburst Fire Buckets entering service with new clients, while existing operators have added 1,600-litre (421-gallon) units to their inventories. Operators cite the Cloudburst Fire Buckets' simplicity, rugged construction, multi-drop capability, and precise delivery as key factors in their adoption.

First introduced more than 20 years ago, Cloudburst has steadily evolved from a regional solution into a global product. Today, more than 350 units are in service worldwide, ranging in capacity from 130 litres (34 gallons) for light helicopters to 10,000 litres (2,640 gallons) for heavy-lift platforms. The broad range of options allows operators to match bucket capacity to their aircraft type, mission profile, and regional fire conditions.

Manufactured in New Zealand, Cloudburst Fire Buckets have become recognized for their efficiency, straightforward maintenance, and proven reliability under demanding conditions. IMS points to the buckets' fast setup, rugged design, and reduced maintenance requirements as advantages that minimize downtime during fire season.

With USA and Canadian operators increasingly looking for reliable, easy-to-service aerial firefighting tools, IMS believes the BOOST partnership will help expand Cloudburst Fire Buckets presence across the region. "The market here is growing rapidly," Lane said. "Fires are getting larger and seasons are getting longer. Having equipment that can keep pace with that reality is critical, and that's what we've designed Cloudburst to deliver."

### **About IMS New Zealand**

[IMS New Zealand Ltd.](#) is a family-run business based in the Hawke's Bay region of New Zealand, with strong ties to the engineering and aviation industries. With a commitment to investment and the creation of a productive environment in which development can be carried out safely and sustainably, the IMS New Zealand team offers a diverse and driven approach to its standard products and all custom requirements.

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