



COMMUNICATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 6, 2013

**24/7 Service, New RELM Offerings Helping the Northwest's Firefighting Efforts –
Silke Stands by to Help**

With approximately a dozen large wildfires burning in Washington and Oregon, Silke Communications is seeing a sudden spike in the need for radio equipment. From new handsets to replace those lost or damaged in the field, to support with repairs, the team is on stand-by to assist fire agencies in any way possible. Phone calls and support requests are being taken 24/7; customers should use the 855-GO-SILKE phone number after hours to be routed to a technician.

"Silke always offers around-the-clock support, but the need for it tends to be limited," says Jim Silke, Jr. "The last two weeks have been an exception. And rather than taking a toll on staff, I witness the demands fueling excitement. The staff really enjoys helping to fulfill extremely important and time-sensitive needs."

Silke has worked with fire agencies for decades, but over the past several years it has earned more contracts and is more heavily involved with the industry. The company is a member of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Washington Fire Chiefs, Oregon Emergency Management Association, APCO and a wide range of other public safety groups.

What's new this year is a broader array of product offerings, including the extremely popular RELM, which is a top-seller for firefighting and forestry uses.

"As soon as we announced RELM, we received orders," Silke says. "We knew customers would like it, but we under-estimated demand for the products. We're really glad to have the equipment our clients want. It's in stock and ready for use."

At this writing on August 6, the US Forest Service's Active Fire Mapping Program showed approximately 24 fires burning uncontained. The vast majority of them are in Oregon, Washington and northern California – all areas Silke serves. The "Big Windy" complex, burning 9,200 acres in southern Oregon is expected to challenge crews until mid-October, according to an [account in Medford's Mail Tribune](#).

For more information, including satellite map views, visit <http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/index.php>. For more information about Silke or RELM products, visit <http://www.silkecom.com>.

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