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## **NEW AMBULANCE RESCUE TRUCKS BEGIN ROLLING OUT**

The first of six new Ambulance Rescue vehicles worth \$1.5 million, is being unveiled today at Camden NSW Minister for Health John Hatzistergos announced.

Mr Hatzistergos said the Camden vehicle was the first of six specially equipped trucks to roll off the production line by June this year.

“The new rescue trucks and equipment will bolster the Ambulance Service’s ability to provide essential public health services and better assist the community during rescue emergencies,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

Mr Hatzistergos unveiled the first vehicle at Camden Ambulance Station with Member for Camden Geoff Corrigan, Member for Campbelltown Graham West and Labor candidate for Wollondilly Phil Costa.

“The new trucks have been specifically designed by rescue officers to be used for a huge variety of rescue missions, from car accidents to collapsed buildings and during natural disasters,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

Features of the new vehicles include:

- hydraulic support struts to stabilise cars that have rolled onto their roof or side and to stabilise collapsed buildings
- confined space rescue equipment
- concrete cutting tools
- swift water rescue equipment
- a remote controlled roof mounted lighting mast for extra safety, and
- four external cameras to alleviate driver blind spots

Member for Camden Geoff Corrigan welcomed the new rescue truck for the local community.

“Having the latest equipment means that our Ambulance Service is better prepared for any disaster on a small or large scale in Camden and the surrounding area,” Mr Corrigan said.

Member for Campbelltown Graham West said Ambulance rescue staff provided an essential service to the local area.

“The new truck and equipment will help make a difficult job a little easier,” Mr West said.

Labor candidate for Wollondilly Phil Costa said the Ambulance rescue team provided essential support across Wollondilly as well as Camden and Campbelltown.

“We have urban areas as well as large areas of farm and bushland that the Ambulance service could be called to for a rescue situation at any time.

The Ambulance Service has over 200 fully trained rescue officers who have been involved in major incidents including Thredbo, the Newcastle earthquake, Waterfall train crash and the Beaconsfield mine disaster.

Media contact: Clair Cameron 9228 4977 or 0409 240 137