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EMERGENCY VEHICLES

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Anyone Can Help

Automobiel Fabriek N.V became much better known under the abbreviation DAF. The company, which was founded in 1928, was offering passenger cars since 1958. In 1961, the series of Daffodil was started and went down into history of automobile books. In the framework of this passenger car series, the type DAF 33 was following since 1967. Therefor the original and very undependable design of the DAF 31 – originally created by Italian designer Giovanni Michelotti – was slightly lifted and cleaned.

The DAF 33 inspired the Dutch public, and also achieved very good sales figures in England.

In 1974 the bodywork company T.D. Zonnenhuis, in the Netherlands, was taking care of the DAF 33 combi-model and modified them into a fire department vehicle. The combi-version had a reinforced chassis and was well suited for conversion. It was necessary to cut the combi-construction by half on the height of the rear axle to install

a big fire pump at the rear of the DAF. The remaining combi-part was also sufficient space for the strictly necessary fire fighter equipment.

A foldable ladder and a variety of fire hoses were transported by the DAF 33 on a special roof rack, which was assembled on the chassis.

Under its bonnet an engine sized at 27 hp was also working with its famous and especially characteristic Variomatic automatic transmission, which was already installed in the series model.

Under today's aspects, the DAF-fire engine is well-conceived and is offering the necessary equipment in very narrow space to fight sources of fire effectively.

The Dutch community Doorn was the customer of the own designed DAF-reconstruction.

Nowadays, the small fire engine is no more in use and is carefully protected in the museum.

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