

## **SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA)**

### **Purpose::**

- To ensure all Scriba Fire Department personnel are trained in the safe use, maintenance, routine inspection, and cleaning of SCBA prior to use. SCBA, its use, maintenance and training shall meet all applicable NFPA and OSHA standards.

### **Guideline:**

- The SCBA used is the Scott Aviation NXG2 4500 psi with an AV-2000 or AV3000 face piece. Additional features are integrated pass alarm and SEMS System. The Bottles that are to be used are SCBA: 30-minute carbon fibers or fiberglass wrapped bottles made for use with the Scott NXG2 Air-Pak.
- Qualified persons as outlined within this document shall only use SCBA. All personnel who may be in an area that may be an Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH), oxygen deficient or contaminated atmosphere shall wear them. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Structural incidents
  - Vehicle fires
  - Chemical spills
  - Gas Leaks
  - Trash and dumpster fires
  - Calls involving unknown substances
  - CO >35 ppm
- The use of SCBA shall not be discontinued at any incident until either the user exits the hazardous atmosphere or the air is determined to be safe by an appropriate meter used by a trained operator.
- All interior firefighting personnel will be initially trained in its use, care, and maintenance as outlined in this document and will be re-certified annually. They shall be required to complete and pass a respiratory exam, medical evaluation and SCBA mask fit testing prior to using a SCBA. They will be required to complete and pass these annually to maintain their status to use a SCBA.
- No individual with facial hair that interferes with or touches the face piece seal shall be allowed to don or use SCBA equipment at anytime.
- Eyeglasses will only be allowed with a frame designed for and used with the AV-2000 or AV 3000 face piece. Contact lenses are permitted to be used.
- The SCBA will be donned per appropriate procedures with all straps securely fastened. Every effort should be taken to keep debris and liquid from entering the inside the SCBA face piece. SCBA should never be laid in dirt or on dirty areas.
- Each Firefighter should be limited to a maximum of two (2) consecutive cylinders at any incident. Upon Completion they should be evaluated to ascertain if they are fit to return to service only after adequate rehab and clearance by an EMS officer

- SCBA shall be cleaned and disinfected after every use per manufacture recommendation and OSHA requirements.  
SCBA Performance Program
- The yearly SCBA OSHA class and ongoing training program is to ensure that interior firefighters are initially trained and at least annually refreshed in the use, care and maintenance of SCBA in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.134\* through the use of classroom instruction, practical hands on training and competency review.
- Fit Testing  
Each member must pass a "Fit Test", as administered by a Certified Provider used for department fit tests, prior to being allowed to use a SCBA in any IDLH atmosphere. "Quantitative" fit testing shall be performed on all persons to ensure a proper seal for the selected SCBA. They shall be required to complete and pass the fit test annually, when they request a test or anytime an officer feels it necessary due to change in a persons facial structure i.e. Weight loss or gain, dentures, cosmetic surgery, scarring, etc. Personnel shall only wear the size mask used to pass their latest fit test for both emergencies and training exercises. An atmosphere of "artificial" smoke will be treated as an IDLH atmosphere in training sessions as per OFPC guidelines.
- Training shall be conducted in a formal Department Training and NYS training course. Personnel must fully participate and complete either New York State Firefighting Essentials or NYS Firefighter 1 training including all practical exercises and written exams. They must then demonstrate competency to the Training Officer, or their designee. Only after all pertinent training has been complete and documented can an individual operate as a qualified as an SCBA user.
- Routine inspection will be done on a Bi-weekly basis at a minimum and consist of the following: \*see attached check sheet
- All problems of any of the above are to be corrected if possible or the SCBA is to be placed out of service and a repair notice given to 2703 or the Supply Officer
- All SCBA will be tested annually and whenever an operational problem is recorded. A record of each test placed in the master file of the specific SCBA. Personnel trained and certified by the manufacture can make repairs to the SCBA. No personnel shall make any repairs to any SCBA except. An exception to this section is the replacement of the high pressure "O" ring and regulator/mask gasket that can be performed by personnel approved by the department.

#### Cleaning and Disinfecting

- OSHA 1910.134, Section B5 requires respirators be cleaned and disinfected regularly after each use or more often as necessary. Cleaning shall be conducted to remove dirt and grime as needed. Disinfecting shall be done after every use of mask and shall utilize a 1:1,000 hypochlorite solution allowing a minimum of two minutes before rinsing. The mask shall be thoroughly rinsed and dried prior to being placed back in service.

#### Storage

- All SCBA shall be properly stored on the apparatus or in their protective bag
- Regulators shall be stored in the protective cup attached to the SCBA waist strap or on the mask stored in a storage bag.
- Spare SCBA bottles shall be stored in a bracket, storage well on the apparatus or in a rack at the station.

#### Air Quality

- Air quality analysis for breathing air meets the requirements for Type 1 (gaseous) Grade D breathing or better as described in ANSI/Compressed Gas Association Commodity Specification for Air, G-7.1-1989. Documentation of above shall be kept in a file in the Chief's Office and posted next to the Cascade System.