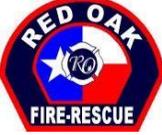


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|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
|  | ROFR Section: 1300 | | TFCA Best Practices: Ch. 11 |  |
| | Effective: 9/2011 | Revision: 7/2016 | Fire Chief:  | |

Self-contained Breathing Apparatus 1300

It is the policy of the Red Oak Fire Department that all personnel expected to respond and function in areas of atmospheric contamination shall be equipped with self-contained breathing apparatus (S.C.B.A.) and trained in its proper use and maintenance.

Members shall achieve a NON-LEAKING facepiece-to-skin seal WITH THE MASK. Facial hair shall not be allowed at points where the S.C.B.A. facepiece is designed to seal with the face. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS SHALL BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THIS REQUIREMENT.

Each crewmember will be responsible for the proper use and function of their S.C.B.A. The crewmember is responsible for the cleaning and proper storage of the unit after use. The crew will document that the unit was used in a fire. The packs are tagged with the Engine and Seat it is assigned to.

SCBA and PASS/Spare SCBA bottles – Check all SCBA and PASS alarms for functional operation. Use SCBA Check list provided in the Apparatus book for documentation of SCBA checks. Check for hydrostatic dates on cylinders. Change batteries at regular intervals when required by maintenance program. The components and operation of the SCBA and PASS device will be reviewed with all entry-level employees. All employees must be aware of the proper use of SCBA and Pass devices. Maintenance issues must be reported ASAP and a certified technician only can perform repairs. **BP 11.03**

Daily Inspection Records

Inspection and cleaning confirmation shall be recorded on the department's electronic checkoff records program (currently www.firecheckoffs.com). Login information is available from the shift officer. Each member on duty is responsible to inspect their SCBA and enter the inspection record in the electronic checkoff records program. SCBAs not assigned to an occupied apparatus position should be inspected by on duty personnel and recorded in the electronic checkoff records program.

The electronic checkoff records program requires that members read over the inspection procedure, indicate the bottle pressure (4000-4500 psi or below 4000, refilled bottle), check the box certifying they followed the inspection procedure and record the inspection result (passed or out of service). If the SCBA fails inspection and is put out of service, the member will record the failed inspection and initiate a repair work ticket using the electronic checkoff records program. Any member that fills or refills an SCBA bottle must list that event in the bottle fill log kept with the Cascade system. The member will note the fill date, bottle serial number, bottle manufacture date, last hydrostatic testing date, bottle pressure after filling and sign the log.

If a S.C.B.A. is found to be functioning improperly, it shall be taken out of service, red tagged, reported, and replaced immediately. Replacement S.C.B.A.s shall be obtained from the spare packs in the storeroom.

The intent of the S.C.B.A. policy is to avoid any respiratory contact with products of combustion, super-heated gases, toxic products or other hazardous contaminants.

The use of breathing apparatus means that all personnel shall have facepieces in place, breathing air from the supply provided. Where appropriate,

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus shall be used by all personnel operating:

- in a contaminated atmosphere
- in an atmosphere which may suddenly become contaminated
- in an atmosphere which is oxygen deficient
- in an atmosphere which is suspected of being contaminated or oxygen deficient

This includes all personnel operating:

- in an active fire area
- directly above an active fire area
- in a potential explosion or fire area, including gas leaks and fuel spills
- where products of combustion are visible in the atmosphere, including vehicle fires and dumpster fires
- where invisible contaminants are suspected to be present (i.e. Carbon Monoxide during overhaul)
- where toxic products are present, suspected to be present, or may be released without warning
- in any confined space which has not been tested to establish respiratory safety

In addition to the above, S.C.B.A. shall be worn by all personnel operating at fire incidents above ground, below ground or in any other area which is not, but which may become contaminated by products of combustion or other hazardous substances. In these circumstances only, the S.C.B.A. may be worn with the facepiece removed. The wearing of S.C.B.A. in these situations provides that it will be immediately available for use if conditions change or if personnel are to enter an area where the use of S.C.B.A. is required.

Premature removal of S.C.B.A. must be avoided at all times. This is particularly significant during overhaul when smoldering materials may produce increased quantities of carbon monoxide and other toxic products. In these cases S.C.B.A. must be used or the atmosphere must be changed.

In routine fire situations, the decision to remove S.C.B.A. shall be made by company officers, with the approval of command, based on an evaluation of atmospheric conditions. Prior to removal, fire areas shall be thoroughly ventilated and, where necessary, continuous ventilation shall be provided.

If there is any doubt about respiratory safety, S.C.B.A. use shall be maintained until the atmosphere is established to be safe by testing. Safety Sector personnel shall be responsible for this determination. This is required in complex situations, particularly when toxic materials may be involved.