

Operating Guidelines

Section: Personnel Safety

Subject: Breathing Apparatus

Number: 202

Date Issued: August 3, 2010

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Guidelines

202.1

All members shall receive training in safety, use of, inspection, care, and maintenance, limitations, emergency procedures & Entry/S.C.B.A. Control according to the manufacturer's recommendations and O.G. 102.

202.2

Only fit tested members are permitted to wear S.C.B.A.

202.3

All personnel shall utilize S.C.B.A. when encountering or suspecting the following situations:

- a) Life Hazard requiring S.C.B.A.
 - o oxygen deficient areas
 - o elevated temperatures
 - o dangerous gases; toxic/flammable/explosive
 - o smoke; carbon particles/dust
- b) Types of Situations
 - o all structural fires (regardless of size or state of fire)
 - o car or equipment fires
 - o garbage bin/dumpster or landfill fires
 - o hazardous material fires and spills
 - o dangerous environment rescues; sewers; silos
 - o all salvage and overhaul operations
 - o confined space entry (trained personnel only)
 - o Carbon Monoxide Responses

202.4

P.A.S.S. alarms shall be activated when the air supply is opened at the bottle.

202.5

Persons using S.C.B.A. **shall work in pairs**– they are not to work alone.

202.6

Entry Control shall be set up as soon as possible at all incidents requiring the use of S.C.B.A. This function should be done in conjunction with entry control, or separately. The Entry Control form provides this avenue.

The Entry Control shall maintain a written record of:

- a) Name of wearer (number assigned to member)
- b) Time on air
- c) Member's area of operation
- d) Estimated time the wearer will be out of the hazardous area, and
- e) Time off air
- f) Record bottle pressure

202.7

Once the Entry Control has been established, all members shall report before going on air and immediately after leaving the hazardous area. In cases where Entry Control is not established, members shall inform the Entry Control Officer that they are using S.C.B.A., where they will be and when they expect to be out. This information can be logged in conjunction with the Entry Control form.

Note: Be overly cautious. Do not become a victim. You may not see or smell the hazard.

Do not remove your S.C.B.A. until the atmosphere has been determined, by the officer in charge, to be safe to operate in without it. Either use your S.C.B.A. or change the atmosphere.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of every member of the Fire Department to utilize and maintain SCBA in accordance with this guideline, the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Guideline Number 7.