

Lake Jericho Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Standard Operating Procedure

Subject: Use of SCBA and Pass Devices

Effective Date: January 1, 2010

Authorized By: Chief Guy Coombs

I. Purpose

- A. To provide all members maximum protection against death or injury due to respiratory-threatening atmospheres.
- B. To provide equipment that will enhance the safety of all firefighters entering visually obscured atmospheres by means of an audible alarm.

II. Policy

- A. All structural fire and rescue apparatus will carry Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).
- B. A Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) will be provided with each SCBA.
- C. All members subject to emergency scene response will be proficient in donning, utilization and inspection of SCBA and PASS devices.
- D. All members working in situations where respiratory-threatening atmospheres exist or where such atmospheres are likely to develop will utilize SCBA and PASS devices.

III. Procedure

- A. SCBAs will be secured in an area of the apparatus such that it will not injure anyone in the event of an accident or will be stored in its mounting bracket, secured from falling by use of the restraining strap.
- B. An SCBA will be worn ready for use by each member operating in a situation where the atmosphere is not contaminated or oxygen deficient but the possibility exists that such a condition will develop.
- C. An SCBA will be worn with the face piece in place, using tank air, by any member operating:
 - a. Inside a structure where a contaminated atmosphere is know to exist.
 - b. At an outdoor incident which is known to produce toxic smoke and/or gasses. This includes, but is not limited to, a vehicle fire, dumpster fire and hazardous materials incident.
 - c. In an oxygen deficient atmosphere.
 - d. In any area that may be subject to explosion or sudden contamination.
 - e. On the roof or any floor on or above a working structure fire.

- f. In any atmosphere where monitoring has shown the carbon monoxide levels to exceed 35 parts per million.
 - g. In any situation where a contaminated or oxygen deficient atmosphere is suspected or where a confined space permit is required.
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- D. It is the responsibility of each officer to see that SCBAs are utilized when needed and only removed as directed. The Incident Commander and/or Safety Officer will monitor each incident to assure appropriate use and removal of SCBAs. The Chief will conduct a thorough investigation of any smoke inhalation or respiratory injury.
 - E. Each SCBA will be equipped with a PASS device integrated into the unit to activate automatically when the air cylinder is opened. The user will confirm that the PASS device is activated any time a SCBA is used.
 - F. Each SCBA and PASS device will be inspected at the beginning of each shift on designated first out apparatus. Other SCBA's will be inspected weekly during regular apparatus inspections. SCBA's and their PASS devices will be inspected after maintenance for proper function. These procedures are outlined in the Lake Jericho Fire and Rescue Department Standard Operating Guideline entitled "SCBA and PASS Inspection".