

SHELBYVILLE FIRE & RESCUE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

	SECTION: PPE SUBJECT: SCBA	S.O.P: 106.02
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	Approved By:	Effective Date: December 1, 2012
		Revision Date:

Purpose:

It is the policy of the SFD that all personnel expected to respond and function in areas of atmospheric contamination, shall be equipped with self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and trained in its proper use, function, and maintenance.

General:

1. Evaluation of all members using SCBA's shall be conducted annually. Each member shall be able to demonstrate a high level of proficiency and compatibility with the SCBA under conditions, which simulate those expected as a job requirement.
2. Each member of the SFD, Career and or Volunteer shall be fit tested annually to assure that an adequate face piece to skin seal can be achieved.
3. Any member of the SFD undergoing facial reconstruction surgery, substantial weight loss or weight gain shall be fit tested anytime regardless of the date set to annually fit test to assure adequate face piece to skin seal can be achieved.

Procedure:

1. Members shall achieve a NON-LEAKING face piece to skin seal with their mask. Facial hair shall not be allowed at any points where it would impede or disrupt the face piece, where it is designed to seal or contact the face.
2. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus shall be used by all personnel operating:
 - a. In a contaminated atmosphere. (IDLH)
 - b. In an atmosphere which may suddenly become contaminated.
 - c. In an atmosphere which is oxygen deficient.
 - d. In an atmosphere, which is suspected of being contaminated.
 - e. In a potential explosion of fire area including gas leaks and fuel spills
 - f. In situations where products of combustion are in the atmosphere, including vehicle fires, dumpster fires and where invisible contaminants are suspected to be present. (Carbon Monoxide during overhaul)
 - g. In any confined space, which presents or could potentially present a contaminated atmosphere of oxygen deficient atmosphere.
3. In addition to the above, SCBA's 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 SCBA may be worn with the face piece removed. The wearing of the SCBA in these situations provides that it will be immediately available for use if conditions change or if personnel are to enter where the use of SCBA is required.
4. Premature removal of the SCBA 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, SCBA's must be used or the atmosphere must be changed.

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5. If there is any doubt about respiratory safety, SCBA use shall be maintained until the atmosphere is established to be safe by testing. Personnel operating as the safety officer shall be responsible for this determination. This is required in complex situations, particularly when toxic materials may be involved.
6. If SCBA's are found to be improperly functioning, it shall be tagged out of service and reported immediately to the shift supervisor. Arrangements shall be made for repair or replacement.