

Douro-Dummer Fire Services Policy

Policy 1.02A

DATE: May 2020

Original: 01/01/07

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Section: Protective Clothing & Equipment

Subject: SCBA Operational Inspection Procedures

Purpose:

To establish a program for the inspection of SCBA equipment and related accessories which:

1. Promotes and enhances firefighter safety.
2. Ensures all SCBA equipment and related accessories are in a prepared state for emergency use.

Scope: Applies to all personnel.

Policy:

1. The operational inspection shall be completed on each SCBA unit under the following the conditions:
 - a. On each maintenance night
 - b. After any use (training, emergency situations, etc.)
 - c. Before returning any SCBA unit to service after maintenance work has been completed
2. If any defective items or other deficiencies are found during the inspection, the SCBA should be red tagged indicating the date, problem, and the person removing the SCBA from service. Any SCBA taken out of service needs to be reported through the station Officer, which in turn will ensure the Program Administrator is aware the unit out of service.
3. Each time an operational inspection is performed, personnel shall complete the SCBA Operational Inspection Report using the appropriate ID numbers for the components.
 - a. Inspections records will be maintained for each individual SCBA based on the assigned identification number.
 - b. Once a form is fully completed with multiple entries, they are to be submitted to the Program Administrator. A new form will be started for that SCBA unit number.

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4. All spare SCBA cylinders shall have a plastic cap installed on the valve threads when the cylinder is not in use to protect the threads from damage.
5. Each SCBA component is identified with an ID number.

Procedure:

Firefighters shall clean and sanitize their station breathing apparatus as per the manufacturer's instruction. The following inspections shall be conducted:

1. Visually inspect the apparatus for damage and excessive wear
2. All connections are tight, and hardware is intact
3. Cylinder is filled to specified working pressure and undamaged (min 1900 psi)
4. Inspect face mask for damage and cleanliness
5. Open cylinder valve, listen for leaks
6. Perform face mask fit test and perform a negative and positive pressure check.
7. Test the by-pass valve
8. Vent the system via the by-pass valve while watching the remote pressure gauge and listening to the strength and duration of the whistle alarm the Whistle alarm should sound at ¼ mark on the remote gauge
9. Ensure the PASS alarm is present and functioning correctly
10. Return unit to a ready state
11. If there is a problem with the SCBA it should be red-tagged and taken off the vehicle it is assigned to and proper notification and records completed
12. All SCBA cylinders in reserve must be safely stored and fully charged

Compliance with this policy shall be the responsibility of the user(s), inspector(s), supervisor(s) and Program Administrator.