

# **Douro-Dummer Fire Services Policy**

**Policy 1.02G**

**DATE: May 2020**

**Original: 01/01/07**

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**Section:**     **Protective Clothing & Equipment**

**Subject:**     **SCBA RIT Kit Operation**

**Purpose:**

The RIT Kit has a complete SCBA along with various tools that are intended for use by the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT). The SCBA inside the kit is an emergency source of breathing air to be used by the person being evacuated from an atmosphere requiring respiratory protection. The various tools in the kit are to be used to help free any person from entanglements restricting safe movement for evacuation.

Trained personnel must only use the RIT Kit as part of a complete respiratory protection program. The program must include, but is not limited to, familiarity with respiratory protection equipment in use within the program and how the RIT Kit SCBA air supply can be used to supply breathing air utilizing the UAC, there is a spare SCBA mask to change out if required and regulator to replace a damaged or malfunctioning regulator. RIT personnel need training on how to perform the functions of RIT to become proficient.

**Every emergency is unique. The users of this equipment must be fully trained to assess the situation and the risks involved and decide how to best use this equipment.**

**Scope:**       Applies to all personnel

**Policy:**

The RIT Kit and SCBA air supply is only to be used during an emergency evacuation situation by the Rapid Intervention Team.

There are 3 options for using the SCBA:

1. Change out face mask
2. UAC to crash fill bottle
3. Regulator failure

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### **RIT Kit Supplies:**

1. Complete SCBA, SCBA pack with regulator and PASS alarm, full air bottle, face mask
2. One pair of foot long bolt cutters for cutting away restrictions
3. One pair of wire snips for cutting away any entanglements
4. One hatchet to help cut away obstructions
5. Folding hack saw with 15 cm (6 inch) blade for cutting
6. Six 10 cm (4 inch) locking carabineers to help in extrication
7. 2.4m (8 foot) round nylon webbing to help in evacuation
8. 1 UAC airline used to crash fill SCBA bottle

### **RIT Kit Regular Operational Inspections:**

1. Inspect the SCBA and the retention system to ensure the cylinder is secure and the SCBA is secure in the RIT Kit.
2. Check the latest cylinder hydrostatic test date and the last fill date to ensure the cylinder is current.
3. Visually inspect SCBA and cylinder along with valve assembly for physical damage. If any damage is found, take out of service, and replace with a good one.
4. Check cylinder pressure gauge for "Full" indication, then turn cylinder on to check PASS alarm and check for any leaks to make sure SCBA is ready for use. When satisfied, turn off cylinder, release air in system then turn off the PASS alarm. SCBA will now be ready in the RIT Kit.

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5. Check all tools are in working order and ready for operation.

### **RIT Kit Operation:**

1. When changing out a face mask it shall be performed as quickly and smoothly as possible to prevent contaminants from entering the airway. To help clear contaminants from the face mask, the low-pressure air valve can be opened slightly, this will blow contaminants away from the mask that will help keep the airway clean.
2. Crash filling utilizing the UAC from the RIT air supply to the downed firefighters SCBA is to be done in air supply emergencies. RIT personnel should be trained on all these operations as part of the respiratory protection program.
3. When there is a regulator failure or malfunction the RIT kit regulator can be used as a replacement for the damaged SCBA regulator.