

PPE - CARE OF SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA)

SAFETY INFOGRAM

- INSPECT before and after
- INSPECT SCBA unit prior to each use. Test and clean after each use.
- **INSPECT** equipment designated for "emergency use" at least monthly and after each use.
- **FOLLOW** manufacturer's instructions and CSA Standard Z94.4 for care and maintenance:
- PERMIT only trained, manufacturer-certified personnel to maintain SCBA.
- **DO NOT MIX** parts from different manufacturers.
- MAINTAIN a complete record for each SCBA facepiece and cylinder.

FACEPIECE

- **DISCONNECT** facepiece from the breathing apparatus. Wash alone in warm (49°-60°C) soapy water using a mild dish detergent.
- **RINSE** the water through the facepiece by placing the palm of the hand over the breathing tube connector on the exhalation valve body.
- REMOVE excess water with a paper towel or lint-free cloth.
- **ALLOW** to air dry.
- **SANITIZE** according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- **CHECK** for tears in the rubber.
- **CHECK** head strap for deterioration.
- **EXAMINE** lens for cracks, excessive scratching or other deformities.
- **CHECK** rings and clamps securing the lens for bends or bulges in the metal.
- **CHECK** the exhalation valve to ensure that it is properly located and that the valve cover is in place.
- **TEST** the exhalation valve. Block the air intake opening and exhale gently. If the exhalation valve is not working properly, a heavy blow-by will be felt at the temples. Inhale and a partial vacuum will be formed.
- DO NOT MIX demand and pressure-demand facepieces and regulators.

REGULATOR

- CHECK the regulator, breathing-tube threads, pressure gauge, and bypass and mainline valves for impact damage.
- **STORE** with the cylinder valve completely closed.
- **BLEED** off air remaining in the regulator after each use, following manufacturer's instructions.

BREATHING TUBE

- **STRETCH** the breathing tube and check for cracks, tears and punctures.
- **CHECK** gaskets.
- **CHECK** clamps and rings to ensure that they are tight, properly located, not dented and not excessively corroded.
- WASH breathing tube separately and allow to air dry. If it
 is permanently attached to the facepiece, allow the
 breathing tube to dry for several days before using.

HIGH-PRESSURE HOSE

- **CHECK** the hose for cuts, bubbles and abrasions.
- **CHECK** the fitting between the high-pressure **hose** and the regulator for damage.
- AUDIBLE ALARM
- **CHECK** the audible alarm for damage.
- **CLEAN** bells or whistles.
- **ENSURE** that the alarm is working. If the alarm does not go off when the pressure reaches 20-25% of service time, the unit is defective. Remove unit from service.

BACKPACK

• **INSPECT** the straps of the backpack for excessive wear, broken stitching, and damaged or missing hardware.

CYLINDER

- ENSURE cylinders are hydrostatically tested as set out in CSA Standard Z94.4., "Selection, Care and Use of Respirators."
- INSPECT for cuts or gouges which can cause the unraveling of the composite fibers of the cylinder overwrap.
- **CHECK** unwrapped cylinders for impact damage.
- CHECK for evidence of exposure to heat. Look for discoloured paint or melted gauge lens.
- **ENSURE** air meets air quality set out in CSA Standard Z180.1., "Compressed Breathing Air."

CLEANING THE REST OF THE UNIT

- **REMOVE** backpack, cylinder and regulator assembly.
- CLEAN with water, or soapy water.
- WIPE the regulator, high-pressure hose, audible alarm, air cylinder, backpack and harness with a damp cloth
- **Dry** with a cloth

Refer to INFOGRAM K07 for information on care and maintenance of Facepiece