FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

ARTICLE: II SOP: 2200

SECTION: 2200 APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

SUBJECT: SCBA – Care and Maintenance

Purpose: To ensure all SCBA, Face Masks and Air Cylinders are in safe and proper working condition.

Scope: All Personnel

Procedure:

1. Definition: SCBA – Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. SCBA consist of the harness with regulator and air supply hose, face mask, voice amplifier and air cylinder. At the time of this policy revision, Felton FPD has SCOTT 5.5 SCBA
2. The following items will be inspected:
	1. Air cylinder and gauge
	2. Regulator and hoses
	3. Face mask
	4. Harness and straps
	5. Air cylinder hydrostatic test date
	6. Batteries, lights and sounds, alarm
	7. Cleanliness and sanitation
3. When performing an inspection, if any defects or problems are found that cannot be immediately repaired, the SCBA will be placed out of service.
4. All repairs involving the regulator, hoses, air cylinder valve or gauges will be sent to a qualified and certified repair facility.
5. Daily and Weekly Check Out will include at a minimum:
	1. Check air cylinder psi. If the gauge read less than 5000 psi the air cylinder must be filled to full.
	2. Check harness and mask straps. They should be fully extended.
	3. Open the air valve and look and listen for the lights to come on and hear the unit beep. If the lights do not light and there is no sound, replace the batteries and try again. If it fails with new batteries, then the unit is out of service.
	4. Allow the alarm to sound, checking the alarm for proper operation.
	5. Check the overall cleanliness and sanitation of the SCBA. Clean as necessary.
	6. Close the air cylinder valve. Bleed off the remaining air in the system using the Red bypass knob on the regulator. Watch, listen and feel as the air is bled off. The regulator will make a low pitched rumble noise and will vibrate while making the noise. This is the low air warning.
	7. Once per week, document on the form that the SCBA was inspected and note the results and any actions taken as a result of the inspection.
6. Care after use:
	1. Following a fire, the SCBA must be properly inspected, cleaned and made ready for service.
	2. Hose down the harness and air cylinder as needed, removing all debris, ash and dirt from the harness and air cylinder. A washing with a simple solution of water and soap may be needed. Dry the harness and air cylinder.
	3. Wash the face mask. Make certain to remove the voice amplifier prior to getting the mask wet. Use the kitchen sink with a solution of warm water and dish soap to remove any debris, ash or dirt from the mask and straps. Towel dry the face mask once it is cleaned. Use a damp cloth, as needed, to clean the voice amplifier prior to placing it back on the face mask.
	4. If there is a possibility of blood borne or other illness carrying substances on the face mask, or if the person wearing the face mask is feeling ill, using a small amount of bleach in the wash water or spraying the face mask with disinfectant. This will kill the bacteria. The same can be done for the harness and air cylinder, if needed.
	5. Ensure all air cylinders have been refilled with air to the proper level (5500 psi).
	6. Stow the SCBA, masks and air cylinders on the fire apparatus in a ready for use condition. Remember to extend the straps fully. Secure and lock the SCBA into the SCBA seat harness.

Do not stow an SCBA that is not operating properly or a dirty face mask or an air cylinder that is not filled to the appropriate level.

Report any problems and as necessary, take the SCBA out of service until repairs can be made. Return the SCBA to service once it has been repaired and checked for proper operation.

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