

## Safe Work Instruction - Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

**DO NOT use this plant\* unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator**

This SWI may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant. Site and task may change required PPE.

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn



Hand protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



High visibility clothing must worn

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- Manual Task Injury**  
Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques
- Other**  
Injury due to equipment malfunction or misuse  
Exposure to toxic fumes
- Slip, Trips, Falls**  
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Visually check the SBBA – Backing Plate, belt, shoulder straps, hoses, gauge and lung demand valve for any damage
- ✓ Check that the 'certification plate' is compliant (service date)
- ✓ Check that the air cylinder pressure reset date has not expired
- ✓ Ensure the cylinder holding strap is not damaged and that the cylinder is secure and strapped tight
- ✓ Check the quantity of air in the cylinder, it must be at least 90% of the cylinder capacity
- ✓ Check the warning whistle by turning the demand valve off and hold the demand valve in one hand. Place the palm of your other hand firmly over the outlet of the demand valve and turn demand valve back on. Slowly release air from the demand valve by slowly raising your palm off the valve, this should cause the pressure gauge needle to fall. Once the needle falls to 50bars the warning whistle must go off
- ✓ Check face mask for damage to mask straps, mask demand holding grips and for any foreign bodies inside the mask

### OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Ensure all Pre Operational Safety Checks are Completed
- ✓ Fully adjust out the belt and shoulder straps on the SCBA back plate as well as the finger straps on the mask
- ✓ Turn lung demand valve off
- ✓ Turn the cylinder valve on (approx. 1 turn)
- ✓ Put the SCBA back plate on with the assistance of a co-worker if available. Adjust the shoulder straps

- so the SCBA back plate fits securely and feels comfortable
- ✓ Fit the mask to your face (chin first) and adjust the masks straps. Adjust the top straps first followed by the middle straps then the bottom straps last
- ✓ Avoid damage to mask straps by ensuring when adjusting the straps they are pulled tight towards the back of your head
- ✓ Fit the lung demand valve to mask and ensure that it is securely clipped into the mask. Inhale and listen for the positive pressure click and air is supplied
- ✓ Check mask seal for air leaks. Reach behind and turn off the cylinder valve but ensure to keep your hand on the valve. Inhale and feel the mask collapse on your face, this means there are no leaks in the masks seal, then immediately turn cylinder valve back on. Inhale air and the air demand valve should automatically switch back on

### ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ When finished, turn the cylinder off to evacuate the line
- ✓ When the line is evacuated, remove the mask beginning with the side straps followed by the top strap
- ✓ Extend all straps on the mask and the harness and return the apparatus to its storage cabinet
- ✓ Ensure apparatus is clean and dry and stored in the appropriate location

### DO NOT

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach a DO NOT OPERATE tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not use apparatus if you cannot achieve a good face piece to face seal
- ✗ Do not use without a fully charged cylinder

- ✘ Do not expose apparatus to excessive heat, moisture or contaminating substances during storage
- ✘ Do not lift or carry apparatus by the face piece or gauge assembly

**\*Plant in this SWI refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.**