

CLIO AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

OPERATING GUIDELINE

TITLE: BREATHING AIR SYSTEMS

REFERENCES: NFPA 1500
ANSI 288.5 - 1981

THE LIFE AND HEALTH OF MEMBERS OF THE CLIO AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT INVOLVED IN FIRE FIGHTING, RESCUE, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS DEPENDS IN LARGE PART ON THE USE, CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF BREATHING AIR SYSTEMS.

USE:

1. Breathing Air Systems are to be used as a supporting system for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

COMPRESSOR:

1. The Breathing Air Compressor is to be used in the preset "Automatic" mode.
2. Maintenance and air quality testing is to be done in conformance with the manufacturers recommendations.

CASCADES:

1. Cascades are to be kept full at all times.
2. SCBA bottles are to be filled by using the "Cascade System".
3. Fill bottles from one tank until it will no longer "top off" the bottle, then start on a second tank in the cascade. Continue using the partially full tanks until the air is completely gone.
4. When filling the cascade tanks, open valves to all tanks to allow pressure to equalize, then refill with the compressor.
5. All valves must be turned off when the system is full and is not being used.
6. Hydrostatic Testing shall be performed in accordance with the appropriate standard.