

T E C H N I C A L B U L L E T I N

#67 September 15, 1992

IDENTIFYING SCBA APPROVALS

SURVIVAIR has manufactured SCBA for nearly 30 years. SCBA manufactured before 1973 may not have MSHA/NIOSH approvals. SCBA manufactured after 1973 may have only MSHA/NIOSH certification. SCBA manufactured after 1987 are MSHA/NIOSH approved and may be certified as meeting NFPA 1981, 1987 edition. All SCBA manufactured after September of 1992 meet MSHA/NIOSH and the new NFPA 1981, 1992 Edition. The harness backplate is labeled to indicate that this SCBA meets MFPA 1981, 1992 Edition. Upgrade kits provide the means to upgrade an old SCBA to comply with MSHA/NIOSH and/or NFPA 1981, 1987 Edition.

The SURVIVAIR technician must know which standard an SCBA meets before inspecting, servicing, or repairing it. This bulletin will help the technician to identify various SURVIVAIR SCBA.

I. MK1/XL SERIES SCBA

MEETS BUREAU OF MINES CERTIFICATION ONLY
(Manufactured prior to 1973 and not modified)

- A. SCBA which will NOT meet MSHA/NIOSH or NFPA standards: P/N 9030 Series, P/N 9050 Series, early 9838 models.

Backpack: Alpine harness with yellow PVC straps

Regulator: BM-13D-12 stamped into case,
and/or reserve lever (J valve) on face of regulator,
and/or black diaphragm,
and/or nickel plated brass body,
and/or demand capabilities only (no don/use switch or spacer),
and/or unmodified regulator with BM-13E-24 sticker on side (this SCBA can be upgraded to MSHA/NIOSH approvals).

Alarm: None on SCBA,
and/or round chrome style with BM-13D-12 stamped in body.

Facepiece: Black neoprene,
and/or selectable exhalation valve (knob may have a label on face of exhalation valve nozzle),

and/or hose with accordion folds and mold line down each side,
and/or plastic retaining clamps on facepiece or hose.

Cylinder: Steel cylinder with 1800 PSI markings.
Small 7/16" diameter outlet.

This equipment shall not be used in any IDLH atmosphere or in any fire fighting situations and should be removed from all such use at the first opportunity.

B. MSHA/NIOSH CERTIFIED

MK1/XL Industrial Series (P/N 9838 Series (Modified), 9845 Series)
All SCBA made after 1973 which are labeled with MSHA/NIOSH approval No. TC-13F-44 & TC-13F-45, and/or BM-13E-24 SCBA which have been properly modified to comply with approval TC-13F-44 or TC-13F-45.

Backpack: Alpine style with black straps or articulated backpacks

Regulator: All 9116, 9118, 9123, 9125, 9127 series regulators (label on front of regulator),
and/or no black spacer (demand mode only, restricted use),
and/or all 9116, 9118, 9123, 9125, 9127 regulators which have had the don/use lever and black spacer,
and/or all 9116, 9118, 9123, 9125, 9127 regulators which have had the don/use lever removed and operate only in pressure demand (positive pressure) mode.

Alarm: All with six sided aluminum body,
and/or all black body alarms. (The black body alarms shall be replaced at the next overhaul or 3 years from last overhaul).

Facepiece: All blue XL style 5-strap facepieces with gloss plastic, silver or matte plastic lens rims

(NOTE: Gloss plastic rims are not recommended for fire fighting.)
and/or hoses with metal Tinnerman clamps,
and/or Mark 2 style 4-strap facepieces with 2 pin black quick connect fittings.

Cylinder: All steel cylinders with 2015 PSI markings and + mark on last hydrostatic test,
and/or all SURVIVAIR low pressure cylinders,
and/or 89 cubic foot high pressure (4500 psig) composite cylinders.

C. NFPA 1981, 1987 edition

Backpack: All hinged backpacks with blue or silver strapping (strapping can be mixed),
and/or all hinged backpacks which have been upgraded with blue or silver NFPA harness strap kit (P/N 942295).

Regulator: All 9135 series regulators (blue label on front of regulator contains part number),
and/or all 9127 series regulators that have been properly modified to

9135 series with Hi Flow kit (P/N 941610). 9116, 9118, 9123, 9125 regulators cannot be upgraded to meet NFPA standards.

Alarm: All with six-sided aluminum body.

Facepiece: Mark 2 style facepiece (four straps) with red NFPA quick connect fitting, long large diameter hose, metal or matte plastic rims, and lens with red dot.

Cylinder: All SURVIVAIR composite cylinders with cylinder valve containing silicone o-rings.

D. NFPA 1981, 1992 edition

Only SCBA manufactured after September 8, 1992 are compliant with this standard. The organization which certifies SCBA as compliant with NFPA 1981, 1992 edition is developing rules for upgrading non-compliant SCBA in the field. Further information will be provided on upgrades when the rules for upgrading SCBA are finalized.

II. MARK 2 SERIES SCBA

A. MSHA/NIOSH

All Mark 2 SCBA meet MSHA/NIOSH requirements. Under current federal regulations (August 1992) OSHA allows MSHA/NIOSH-certified SCBA to be used in firefighting and other IDLH atmospheres. However, some states and Canadian provinces may be in the process of changing local regulations concerning use of SCBA in fire fighting. The technician must keep informed of all local requirements. Future regulations may require firefighters to be equipped with SCBA which meets NFPA 1981, 1987 or 1992 Editions.

B. NFPA 1981, 1987 EDITION

Backpack: All hinged backpacks with silver or blue strapping (strapping can be mixed),
and/or all hinged backpacks modified with NFPA harness kit (P/N 942290).

Regulator: All first stage regulators with main piston (P/N 910067).

30-minute high and low pressure SCBA: all second stage regulators with SVA or SV on inlet shoulder and which have a red quick connect (see 1992 parts book) and are tuned to NFPA flow standards.

45-and 60-minute SCBA: all second stage regulators with SV on inlet shoulder and which have a red quick connect and are tuned to NFPA flow standards.

Facepiece: All with red quick connect fitting, large diameter hose, metal or matte plastic rims,
and/or red dot on lens,

and/or which have been modified with a Mark 2 NFPA flow kit (P/N 910092).

Cylinder: All composite cylinders with cylinder valve containing silicone o-rings.

NOTE: All sub-assemblies must meet NFPA requirements before the SCBA is considered NFPA-compliant.

C. NFPA 1981, 1992 edition

Only SCBA manufactured after September 8, 1992 are compliant with this standard. The organization which certifies SCBA as compliant with NFPA 1981, 1992 edition is developing rules for upgrading non-compliant SCBA in the field. Further information will be provided on upgrades when the rules for upgrading SCBA are finalized.