



# Operation & Maintenance of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

## Donning SCBA:

- Ensure all straps are in full outward position
- Swing unit up over head; slide down back making sure elbows extend through loop formed by shoulder straps
- Pull down on shoulder straps while pushing hips backwards to lift onto shoulders
- Fasten waist and chest straps

## To place mask on head:

- Pull mask forward & hold head harness back
- Ensure chin is sitting in the chin pocket
- Pull harness over head and tighten both lower (neck) and upper (head) straps
- Install regulator on the face mask & open cylinder valve
- Check remote gauge (if applicable) for indication of tank pressure

## To inspect SCBA, check:

- Face mask for scratches
- Rubber components (face seal & tubing) for cracks & dry rot
- Straps for elasticity & fraying
- Springs in mask clips
- Damage to cylinder
- Last hydrostatic test date
- Pressures on tank & remote gauge (should be within 100 psi)

## To test SCBA:

- Ensure air save switch is on
- Turn on tank and listen for leaks
- Place mask against face and begin to breathe; listen for air leak through face seal
- Remove mask; turn air saver back on; purge air from tubing; listen for alarm when system is empty
- Turn off tank

**SCBA must be hydrostatically tested every 3 – 5 years**

Check manual for specific maintenance requirements for your SCBA

**Have system purged & refilled with clean air every 6 months**