



Mine Safety Appliances Company • P.O. Box 426 • Pittsburgh, PA 15230

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Writers Direct Dial No.

Annual Flow Test Reminder

February 9, 2004

To: All users of MSA self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and combination respirators (self-contained and air-line)

Throughout our 90 year history, the mission of protecting the safety of workers has been paramount to MSA. This unwavering commitment serves as the foundation of trust between MSA and our many loyal customers. To help ensure the continued safety of end-users, MSA is sending this friendly reminder about the importance of conducting annual flow tests on self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and combination respirators (self-contained and air-line).

Annual flow tests are stated as a requirement in NFPA 1852, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), 2002 Edition, which further emphasizes their importance. Although this standard relates to SCBA used in the fire service, MSA requires that a flow test be performed at least annually on all fire-service and non-fire-service SCBA and combination respirators that use a pressure demand regulator.

Annual flow tests apply to the Firehawk™, AirHawk®, BlackHawk™, XTreme®, Ultralite®, Ultralite II, Custom 4500®, Custom 4500 II, Model 401, PremAire®, Hip-Air™, Combination Apparatus, and Work Mask SCBA and combination devices.

Please be sure to have an MSA certified technician using MSA approved equipment conduct the test. If a flow test has not been performed in the past year, please contact an MSA-authorized distributor or MSA certified technician and arrange for this testing to be conducted.

If you have any questions, contact MSA Customer Service at 1-877-MSA-3473

Very truly yours,

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.
Manager of Product Safety

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LOCATION: RIDC Industrial Park • 121 Gamma Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15238