

Operating Guideline # 302

Breathing Compressor

September 30, 2019



PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Operating Guideline (OG) is to establish guidelines to maintain the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus breathing air compressor so that it will always be available to deliver safe air.

GUIDELINE:

General

1. Only persons trained in the proper operation of the air compressor/fill station shall use/operate the breathing air compressor /fill station. Prior to each start-up, the operator shall check the condition of all belts for alignment and tension, the oil level checked for quantity or the presence of air leaks. Should any discrepancies be found, they will be corrected prior to operation of the compressor.
2. At no time will the operator of the breathing air compressor/fill station by-pass any of the safety devices. The cylinder containment doors of the fill station must be closed when cylinders are being filed and both eye and hearing protection will be worn by the operator and any staff members working in the immediate area.
3. The breathing air compressor shall be tested, serviced and maintained as per the manufacturer's instructions and current health and safety guidelines by a third-party service provider.
4. The oil and oil filter shall be changed every 100 hours of operation by a qualified technician.
5. Every six months, the air filter cartridge shall be replaced with a new cartridge. All suction and delivery valves shall be removed and serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. At this time the valve plates and springs should be replaced. The final separator shall be cleaned and inspected as per the owner's manual. The disposable suction filter shall be removed and replaced. Air quality test shall be performed in accordance with industry standards. The results of this test shall be posted near the air compressor at all times.
6. A logbook for the compressor shall be kept up to date at all times indicating use and any maintenance procedures. Repairs and all maintenance done by the qualified technician will be filed by the Mechanical Officer.
7. The Deputy Fire Chief and Respiratory Protection Program Administrator will be responsible to ensure that this OG is complied with.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of all Emergency Operations Division staff to comply with the provisions of this Operating Guideline.

REFERENCES:

- GN #4-09 Respiratory Protection
- CSA Z180.1-13 Compressed Breathing air & Systems