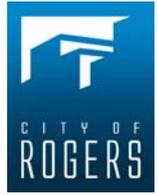




**Rogers Fire Department**  
**Minimum Company Standards**  
SOP 142, FORM 90



## SCBA CYLINDER REPLACEMENT

**Reference:** NFPA 1001, 5.3.1 2008 Edition

**JPR Identification:**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this skill is to ensure the firefighter can manage an SCBA failure and cylinder replacement in an emergency situation, if for nothing more than confidence. Regardless of the reason for SCBA failure, firefighters should have the ability to replace a cylinder on his / herself in an IDLH atmosphere. Each firefighter will be working in simulated hazardous atmospheres and will learn a procedure for a cylinder replacement should their SCBA malfunction or run out of air.

**Performance Outcome:** The firefighters will navigate through various obstacles when the firefighter will experience a low air situation or SCBA failure. These evolutions shall be completed while wearing full PPE including breathing air. The cylinder must be replaced while the regulator is still connected to the facepiece. The firefighter will operate in limited to no visibility. There are no established timeframes for these evolutions as air supply is the most critical factor. *Note: this evolution may be adjusted by the company officer to fit the need of his / her specific crew members.*

**Materials Required:** Personal Protective Equipment  
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus  
*Note: It is the discretion of the company officer what props and configuration are utilized for this company skill.*

**Critical Teaching Points:**

1. Confidence is the main teaching point!!!
2. This scenario simulates an emergency situation in which the firefighter is either experiencing an SCBA failure or low air emergency and cylinder must be replaced in an IDLH atmosphere
3. In the event of an SCBA failure or low air emergency, the company officer should ensure that the firefighter remains calm, DO NOT remove face piece, just replace the cylinder, take actions for survival
4. Remind firefighters to remain calm at all times, manage their air supply, think about their options, and replace the cylinder in a short amount of time.
5. Gloves should remain in place at all times.
6. The evolution may be adjusted to meet the needs of the crew or to address any specific deficiencies that have been identified at the discretion of the company officer.
7. Ensure that all evolutions are conducted in worse case situations, limited to no visibility and simulated high heat which will require the individual to remain low throughout the evolutions.

## SCBA Cylinder Replacement

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1. Ensure that all personal protective equipment is appropriately donned and secure before starting the evolutions
2. Gloves should remain on the firefighter at all times.
3. For conservation of air in a low air emergency, the firefighter should demonstrate controlled breathing.
4. The firefighter with the emergency should recognize that a cylinder change is necessary and position the SCBA in such a way to allow full access to the pack and cylinder.
5. The cylinder should be replaced as quickly as possible.
6. It may be necessary to attach high pressure hose and activate cylinder prior to putting the cylinder back into the pack so that partner has air supply.
7. All replacement is conditioned in an IDLH atmosphere, removal of the regulator or any other PPE is not acceptable.
8. The cylinder should be fully replaced as to allow the firefighter to proceed in the IDLH atmosphere.
9. **AT NO TIME**, should the firefighter remove his mask, it is permissible to assume the face down position. Panic is not permissible and the company officer should ensure that the firefighter remains calm at all times.
10. The face down position should be encouraged to allow the firefighter to gain air and also to regain composure before proceeding with bottle change.
11. The company officer should be aware of the progress at all times and that the firefighter without air is exactly that, without air.

