



Rogers Fire Department Minimum Company Standards SOP 142, FORM 90

SCBA UNIVERSAL / RIC CONNECTION

Reference: NFPA 1001, 5.3.9 2008 Edition

JPR Identification:

Purpose: The purpose of this standard is to ensure the firefighter is familiar with and can fully operate the Universal / RIT connection in the event of a firefighter rescue of other emergency requiring RIT operations. The skills learned through this exercise will teach the proper procedures and techniques for identifying the connection and establishing an air supply for downed firefighter. All members of the crew should be proficient in RIT responsibilities as they may be assigned to RIT during an emergency incident. This understanding will allow them to function better as a team and enable members to function in different capacities within the department.

Performance Outcome: Each Firefighter will be able to locate and connect to the Universal / RIC connection for a downed firefighter. These evolutions shall be completed while wearing full PPE including breathing air. The individual will also operate in limited to no visibility. *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
RIT Pack
Note: It is the discretion of the company officer what props and configuration are utilized for this company skill.

Critical Teaching Points:

1. The company officer should demonstrate the skills and techniques in an open environment, and allow firefighters to practice in an open environment before progressing to demonstration in a closed environment and allowing the firefighter to perform in a closed environment
2. the company officer should reinforce the techniques utilized by Rogers Fire Department these techniques are standardized and should be utilized
3. There should be a progression of skills for all personnel that begins with open environment and ending with the successful completion of the desired props with no visibility, full PPE, and “on air” from SCBA.
4. The firefighters should understand the restricted passageway is an offensive action, loosening straps and manipulating SCBA. Once the SCBA is partially or fully removed the action becomes defensive and should only be utilized for defensive actions such as exiting a structure.

5. Each skill should be taught, demonstrated, and practiced as recognizing the need to move through a restricted opening, perform the proper technique, reduce their profile, and re-adjust SCBA to proceed.
6. It is critical that any time the SCBA is removed that the shoulder strap with the regulator harness attached always be secured by grasping it with their hand throughout the maneuvers.
7. Remind firefighters to remain calm at all times, manage their air supply, think about their options, and slowly negotiate the obstacles.
8. 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.

SCBA Universal RIC Connection

1. Ensure that all personal protective equipment is appropriately donned and secure before starting the evolutions
2. 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.
3. The waist strap and shoulder harness may be loosened so that manipulating the SCBA harness is possible.
4. Enter the designated prop or obstacle restricted passageway and maintain contact with the wall, guideline, or crew member. *Note: Always be sure to feel ahead with hand or tool prior to entering any restricted passageway.*
5. Reduce profile and utilize proper techniques to pass through the designated restriction.
6. If unable to pass through the restricted opening, a partial or full escape will be necessary.
7. Partial escape is accomplished by loosening the waist strap and both shoulder straps. The right shoulder strap is then removed and the shoulder strap with the regulator, left, is secured with a hand. The SCBA is then rotated under the armpit creating a reduced profile.
8. The Full Escape procedure is when the SCBA is fully removed and escape through a restricted opening is conducted. The firefighter should lay on left side and remove the waist strap. Loosen both shoulder harnesses and remove the right shoulder harness. Grab the left shoulder harness and roll away from SCBA. Move SCBA to front with cylinder valve away and cylinder down. This allows the regulator hose more length for better movement.
9. Pass through the restricted opening while maintaining hold of the left shoulder harness where the regulator hose is attached and securing the regulator at all times.
10. To re-don the SCBA, place the SCBA next to the back. Place the shoulder harness with the regulator hose attached onto the left shoulder and roll into the SCBA replacing the right shoulder strap back onto the right shoulder and tighten all straps. Donning the SCBA in this situation shall be accomplished without allowing the fighter to rise up at any time, this must be accomplished inside the prop or laying on the ground.
11. All tasks should be completed with a sense of urgency.
12. Complete all tasks within the allotted timeframe (evaluations only)