

- 10. Update from standards division director on matters relating to the activities of the following committees: International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, Respiratory Protection and Personal Alarm Equipment Committee, Fire Service Occupational Safety Committee, NFPA 1971 Technical Committee, and NFPA Technical Correlating Committee on Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment.**

Deborah Cowan

From: John (Jake) Soteriou
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 8:33 AM
To: Gary Warren; Deborah Cowan
Subject: FW: SCBA 'flat pack' prototype expected in September

Information for the Commissioners.

Jake Soteriou
 Director - Standards & Certification
 office - (512) 936-3820
 fax - (512) 936-3808

Subject: SCBA 'flat pack' prototype expected in September

SCBA 'flat pack' prototype expected in September IAFF and DHS select MSA to work on next generation of SCBA

By Scott M. Bruner
 FireRescue1 Product Editor

WASHINGTON — The next evolution for SCBA apparatus is one step closer to being in the firehouse. The International Association of Fire Fighters and the Department of Homeland Security have selected [MSA](#) to begin work on a prototype of new SCBA built on pressure-vessel technology.

It is designed to eliminate much of the weight of current breathing apparatus, thereby reducing the impacts of working in high stress and heat conditions.

"The opportunity to be involved in the development of revolutionary new SCBA technology – at a ground level with the IAFF – is a partnership of which we are most proud to be associated," William Lambert, MSA president and CEO, said.

The IAFF received a grant for more than \$2.7 million from the DHS in 2008 for research into the new technologies, and sent out requests for proposals to a number of manufacturers to build the prototype.

"Our evaluation panel selected MSA because of the work they've been doing, and the timeline they proposed to us," Rich Duffy, Assistant to the General President at the IAFF, said.

The new SCBA are known as "flat packs," and use a special high-temperature lining, consisting of Kevlar, and are wound with carbon fiber, instead of the conventional aluminum liners used in current technology. They can handle operating pressures up to 5,000 psi and include a soft cover that allows them to bend and flex during use.

Also, if a flat pack ruptures, it doesn't present the same fragmentation danger of a conventional unity. Instead, a punctured vessel can vent the contained air, without the risk of an explosion.

The prototype is designed to incorporate a pressure-vessel into a breathing apparatus to prove it's a viable – and ultimately safer – SCBA method. The profiles of the smaller packs are much smaller than conventional SCBA units as well – the pressure vessels measure only two inches in depth, compared to the conventional seven inches.

Perhaps the greatest advantage, however, is the significant weight reduction that flat packs could potentially offer. Vulcore Industrial, out of Fort Wayne, Ind., which designed the pressure vessels that MSA will be using, was able to reduce the weight of the vessels themselves by approximately 60 percent.

"This is one of the most significant health and safety projects the IAFF has ever undertaken because this new SCBA technology will do more to protect the lives of firefighters," IAFF General President Harold A. Schaitberger said.

The IAFF expects the first prototype to be built by MSA by Sept. 30, and then field testing will follow. The unit will be tested by a team of evaluators that includes 12 firefighters and two law enforcement officers.

"You can do all the work you want in the laboratory but until a firefighter tests it, we won't know if it works in the field," Duffy said.

If the technology is proven it can work, the IAFF is hoping the industry will begin to manufacture and provide the units commercially, not unlike what happened when the original SCBA designs were designed, tested, and released in the 1970s.



Miles Skipper
Deputy Director Standards
Texas Commission on Fire Protection
(512)936-3830



INTERNATIONAL FIRE SERVICE ACCREDITATION CONGRESS

Oklahoma State University
 1700 West Tyler
 Stillwater, OK 74078-8075
 Phone (405) 744-8303
 FAX (405) 744-8802



March 11, 2010

Memorandum

To: IFSAC Certificate Assembly Members,

From: IFSAC Administration

RE: NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials/WMD 2008 edition

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2010

**TEXAS COMMISSION
ON FIRE PROTECTION**

On June 24, 2007 the NFPA approved the *NFPA 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents 2008 Edition*. This edition posed new challenges to IFSAC regarding administration of accreditation for the mission specific competencies listed in chapter 6. During the 2009 Annual Meeting of IFSAC in Oklahoma City the Certificate Assembly Board commissioned an ad hoc committee to determine how it shall be managed.

Important points the IFSAC - NFPA 472 Committee found:

- No concerns about 472-2008 HM Awareness and Tech have been raised.
- For 472-2008 Ch 7 HM Tech - 472-2008 Ch 5 (core) is required, so must be available to be accredited as a stand alone.
- ALL of the mission specific competencies in 472-2008 require 6.2.
 - *See also 7.3.3.2 – 7.3.3.4.7*
 - That the writers of 472-2008 Ch 5 (core) / 6.2 / 6.6 consider it equivalent to 472-2002 Ops –
 - *The competencies for personnel previously trained to the operations level of the 2002 edition can now be referenced as follows:*
 - *Chapter 5 — Core Competencies*
 - *Section 6.2 — Personal Protective Equipment*
 - *Section 6.5 — Product Control**
 - [It should be noted this is a misprint in the 472-2008 standard, should be 6.6]

Per the recommendation of the IFSAC – NFPA 472 Committee, the following guidelines will be used to accredit entities to NFPA 427 – 2008 Edition.

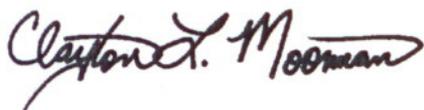
1. An entity shall have correlation sheets available to the site team detailing that they can test any and all components of the standard required (no change).
2. IFSAC will accredit entities for Ch 5, and each Ch 6 mission specific competency selected by the entity.
3. Each entity issues a certificate that clearly details Ch 5 and each Ch 6 mission specific competency they test (requires one seal) and reports to IFSAC.
 - i. This allows entities to test Ch 5 & 6.2 & 6.6, issue one certificate and one seal. OR Ch 5 and all Ch 6 specialties and issue one seal. OR any combination of specialties.
 - ii. Any HM certificate issued by an entity will clearly show any Ch 6 specialties associated with that certificate
4. Additional mission specific competencies will require testing but can be “bundled” for the issuing of certificates, reducing the number of seals required.
 - i. As entities add CH 6 specialties they will be tested separately and a seal issued for each certificate. The certificate will identify the Ch 6 specialties. Again they can be bundled, i.e. if an entity adds 6.7 & 6.8 to the accredited levels, they can test these together, issue a certificate showing these levels with one seal, and report to IFSAC
 - ii. It is the final certificate that drives the accreditation, in that the competencies listed on the final certificate will delineate how the accreditation and test banks are derived.
Examples:
 1. If an entity is going to perform one test for the same grouping of mission specific competencies every time then only one test bank is required. As example the entity will always test Ch 5, 6.2 and 6.6 together then only one test bank is needed, but the correlation sheets must show that they can test to all components of the standard.
 2. If an entity is going to test a mission specific competency separately that level will need a separate test bank. As example, if an entity is going to test 6.7 separately, then that mission specific competencies will be treated as a separate accredited level.
 3. If an entity is going to mix and match mission specific competency into different tests, a separate test bank is needed for each level. For example, one time the entity tests 6.5 and 6.9 together, but then the next test only includes 6.9, both mission specific competencies shall be treated as separate accredited levels since they could be offered together or separately depending on the need.

5. Each "bundle" of certificates will NOT require break out testing for each section, but each complete level (Awareness, Ops, Tech) will. This means that an entity will have to score Ch 4 separately, but Ch 5 with 6.2 & 6.6 can be scored as one level.
6. IFSAC will track each mission specific competency for each seal issued. See 472-2008 Table A5.1.1.1
7. IFSAC will accept 472-2002 as equivalent to 472-2008 Ch 5 (core) / 6.2 / 6.6 for NFPA 1001-2008 FF1.

Special thanks go out to the IFSAC - NFPA 472 Ad Hoc Committee:

Robert Pike (Chair)
Claude Beauchamp
David Couvelha
Alan Joos
Larry Preston
Theresa Staples

Cordially,



Clayton Moorman
Manager
International Fire Service Accreditation Congress

Deborah Cowan

From: John (Jake) Soteriou
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 1:49 PM
To: Deborah Cowan; Gary Warren
Subject: FW: Honeywell First Responder Products position concerning "Date Of Manufacture"

This is the "unofficial" reply from Bruce Teele of the NFPA concerning the previous correspondence from Honeywell First Responder Products relating to some of the hood and glove manufactures and vendors intent to alter the manufacture date on the labels on the products. This is just for information for the Commissioners to discuss at their meeting. I do not see the need to go to Advisory Committee as there is no proposed rule action. I believe I have already sent you their (Honeywell First Responder Products) original correspondence with Miles.

Jake Soteriou
 Director - Standards & Certification
 office - (512) 936-3820
 fax - (512) 936-3808

From: Miles (Skip) Skipper
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 6:28 AM
To: John (Jake) Soteriou
Subject: FW: Honeywell First Responder Products position concerning "Date Of Manufacture"

Jake,

Sent the information about the company changing the manufacturing dates on protective equipment to Randy Safer (our local rep with NFPA) and received the e-mail below from Bruce Teele with NFPA. Since we don't regulate manufacturers or suppliers of protective clothing it appears that our only option is to write a violation for any item found to have an altered manufacturer date.

It appears to me that even manufacturers do not have the authority to change the manufacture date on a piece of protective clothing without re-certification.

With your approval, I will instruct compliance officers to write a violation for any elements found to have altered manufacture dates and require the fire department to replace the item or provide documentation of re-certification by the manufacturer.

Skip

From: Teele, Bruce [mailto:bteele@NFPA.org]
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2010 12:11 PM
To: Miles (Skip) Skipper; Safer, Randy
Cc: Brodoff, Maureen; Willette, Kenneth
Subject: Honeywell First Responder Products position concerning "Date Of Manufacture"

Miles Skipper
 Texas Commission on Fire Protection
 Deputy Director - Standards

Randy Safer of this office has asked me to review your inquiry concerning a letter you received from Brian Marengo and provide you with any guidance. Based on the limited information I have before me, I can give you the following impressions and information. The letter from Brian Marengo of Honeywell

First Responder Products made no sense to me. You asked about the manufacturer's changing of the "date of manufacture" on product labels. The response you received from Mr. Marengo only addressed paragraph 4.4.2 of NFPA 1851.

NFPA 1851, *Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protection Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*, 2008 edition, only applies to selection, care, and maintenance requirements for fire fighting ensembles and ensemble elements (garments, helmets, gloves, footwear, and interface components); and also applies to programs that fire department organizations can implement to reduce safety and health risks of PPE and establish basic criteria for selection, care, and maintenance of PPE. NFPA 1851 does not have requirements regarding the certification responsibilities of the certification organization.

Mr. Marengo references NFPA 1851, paragraph 4.4.2, that states, "Where the manufacturer's instructions regarding care or maintenance of the protective ensembles or elements differ from a specific requirement(s) in this standard, the manufacturer manufacturer's instructions shall be followed for that requirement(s)." While that quotation is correct you will notice nothing is said in 4.4.2 regarding changing the original date of manufacturer.

Also in his letter, Mr. Marengo states that, "In the event manufacture dates on American Firewear/Morning Pride by Honeywell hood or glove conflict, the latest date shall be used as the original date of manufacture." and, "In the event a label requires replacement or alteration, our distributor, Fuego LLC, is authorized to make necessary adjustments on American Firewear / Morning Pride by Honeywell structural fire fighting Reed Hood and / or SleeveMate Glove." In my opinion, nothing in Section 4.4, and paragraph 4.4.2 has anything to do with changing the "date of manufacture;" it applies to the care or maintenance instructions of the PPE product.

NFPA 1971, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*, 2007 edition, is the "product standard" for fire fighting PPE. The requirements for the labeling and listing of product, and the certification program for the PPE ensemble or element are found in Chapter 4, Certification. In Section 4.3, Inspection and Testing, paragraph 4.3.15 states (the emphasis is mine), "Any change in design, construction, or material of a compliant product shall necessitate new inspection and testing to verify compliance to all applicable requirements of this standard that the certification organization determines can be affected by such change. This recertification shall be conducted before labeling the modified product as being compliant with this standard." Also, paragraph 4.2.12 states, "The certification organization shall be in a position to use legal means to protect the integrity of its name and label. The name and label shall be registered and legally defended."

The NFPA does not, itself, investigate or enforce compliance with its standards. If, however, the change of date on the label implicates, as it may well, the need for a recertification, the certification organization which certifies the equipment should be made aware of the change so they can evaluate the situation and take any appropriate action. I would suggest, therefore, that you address your concerns directly to the certification organization that certifies the products at issue.

I hope this information is helpful.

Bruce Teele
Senior Fire Services Safety Specialist
Public Fire Protection Division
NFPA

Important Notice: Please note that this correspondence is not a Formal Interpretation issued pursuant to the Section 6 of the NFPA Regulations Governing Committee Projects. Any opinion expressed is the personal opinion of the author, and does not necessarily represent the official position of the NFPA or its Technical Committees. In addition, this correspondence is neither intended, nor should be relied upon, to provide professional consultation or services.

Honeywell
First Responder Products
(formerly Total Fire Group)
#1 Innovation Court
Dayton, OH 45414
937-264-2662
937-264-2677 Fax

Brian Marengo
#1 Innovation Court
Dayton, OH 45414

March 5, 2010

Texas Commission on Fire Protection
1701 N. Congress Suite 105
Austin, TX 78701

Subject:

American Firewear / Morning Pride by Honeywell Structural Fire Fighting Reed Hood & Sleevemate Glove Manufacture Date Clarification

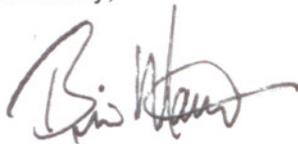
Section 4.4.2 of *NFPA 1851 Standard on Selection Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting 2008 Edition* stipulates the Organization shall follow element manufacturer instruction regarding care and use.

In the event manufacture dates on American Firewear / Morning Pride by Honeywell hood or glove conflict, the latest date shall be used as the original date of manufacture.

In the event a label requires replacement or alteration, our distributor, Fuego LLC, is authorized to make necessary adjustments on Amercian Firewear / Morning Pride by Honeywell structural fire fighting Reed Hood and / or Sleevemate Glove.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Brian Marengo
Honeywell First Responder Products
Cleaning & Care Program Manager