

SPEARFISH FIRE DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES		Page 1 of 2
Volume: Operations	Section: 20.00	Number: 20.11
Subject: Quantitative Fit Testing		
Date Issued: 8 August 2019	Originator: Assistant Chief R. Mathis	
Rescinds: 3 January 2018	Approval: Assistant Chief R. Mathis	

Purpose:

To ensure compliance with OSHA 1910.143 and NFPA 1500 and 1404.

Scope:

This SOP applies to all Spearfish Fire Department personnel who are required to wear a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

Policy:

All personnel who are required to wear and SCBA will have SCBA mask fit testing prior to use and annually thereafter at a minimum.

Additional tests may be conducted when the fit of an individual’s mask is in question. (Examples: extreme weight loss or gain, injury to the face which may have altered fit, change in facial hair)

Records will be maintained of fit tests. Test records are to include date, type of test, employee information and type of face piece used.

Facial hair may not interfere with the face piece seal or valve function (e.g., clean-shaven where the seal surface touches the face) including stubble, sideburns, or beards.

Note: *Achieving an acceptable seal under “test” conditions (e.g., passing the quantitative Porta Count test with facial hair where the seal surface touches the skin) may be achieved, however, this does not mean a reliable seal can be consistently achieved under “real world conditions”. The following rule will apply. **The area where the face piece seal surface touches the face, WILL BE CLEAN-SHAVEN.***

The test will not be given to an employee who has smoked or used chew tobacco 30 minutes prior to the test.

Quantitative fit test (Quantifit)

Procedures

- The employee shall be allowed to pick from a number of sizes (Sm. Med. Or Large) so that the face piece is acceptable to, and correctly fits, the employee.

- The employee shall be shown how to properly don the face piece, including how it should be positioned on the face, how to set the strap tension and how to determine an acceptable fit.
- The following criteria shall be used to help determine the adequacy of the face piece fit:
 - Chin properly placed
 - Adequate strap tension, not overly tightened
 - Face piece of proper size to span distance from nose to chin
 - Tendency of face piece to slip
- A user seal check will be performed as follows: face piece to be held in place by hand, the employee shall seat the mask on his/her face by moving the head slowly from side to- side and up/down. Then place a hand over the regulator mounting area and inhale. If the mask starts to create a seal with the users face the user seal check is complete.
- Prior to the commencement of the quantitative fit test, the test procedure shall be explained to the user.
- The test shall be administered per the protocol preprogrammed in the Quantifit testing system by the manufacture.
- Upon completion of the test the results shall be saved in the Fit track Gold system.

Note: If the face piece fit becomes unacceptable at any point during the test,

- 1. Loosen straps, check positioning on face, retighten and retest.**
- 2. Try a different size mask and retest.**

The face piece shall not be adjusted once the fit test exercises begin. Any adjustment voids the test, and the fit test shall be repeated.