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To See Distribution Below	Mail Code	From <i>O. H. Kittilstad</i> O. H. Kittilstad	Mail Code 1125/4	Ext. 7505
Subject NIOSH RESPIRATOR USER NOTICE - SCBA DEFECT			Date December 4, 1986	

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J. McGinley - 2125/28 ✓
J. Walker - 2125/4
J. Walker - Waco, #616
D. Goforth - Wichita Falls, #402

Please transmit the attached NIOSH memorandum defect notice to your locations that use MSA/NIOSH certified self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

OHK/1h

Attachment

*xc to a/c. Det 77 gms
information only*

*J.L.M.
12/6/86*

xc to 12/10/86

CTD001763



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

August 11, 1986

RESPIRATOR USERS NOTICE

Centers for Disease Control
National Institute for Occupational
Safety and Health - ALOSH
944 Chestnut Ridge Road
Morgantown, WV 26505-2888

Inspection of Self-contained Breathing Apparatus
For Breathing-gas Pressure

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) issued a Respirator Users Notice on January 17, 1986, advising users of Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)/NIOSH-certified self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) to inspect fiberglass-wrapped aluminum cylinders at least weekly for breathing-gas cylinder pressure, and discussing the problem of fiber-glass-wrapped aluminum cylinder rupture.

NIOSH issued a Respirator Users Notice on March 15, 1983, advising users of Robertshaw Model 5000 5-minute compressed-air escape SCBA of reports of gradual leakage of air from those respirators. The Robertshaw Model 5000 is equipped with a high-pressure tubing-coil breathing-air reservoir.

NIOSH has identified the following sources of breathing-gas pressure leakage from SCBA, excluding self-contained self rescuers:

<u>Source of Leakage</u>	<u>No. of Reports to NIOSH</u>
o Cylinder rupture	4
o Cylinder neck cracking	192
o Leakage at the cylinder to cylinder valve connection	7
o Leakage at tubing-coil reservoir fittings	50

On the basis of presently-available information concerning the potential for breathing-gas leakage, NIOSH believes that users of all MSHA/NIOSH-certified SCBA should follow these minimum safety recommendations:

1. Determine that each DOT-E 7235 4500 cylinder is equipped with a steel neck ring to prevent cylinder rupture (DOT-E 7235 2216 and 3000 and other cylinders do not require neck rings).
2. SCBA, except SCSR, which are used infrequently should be visually checked once a week and all SCBA should be checked before donning, for loss of breathing-gas pressure. Failure to conduct such examination could result in a hazardous situation if undetected pressure loss has occurred.
3. SCSR should be inspected as prescribed by MSHA and the SCSR manufacturer.
4. If leakage of breathing gas from an MSHA/NIOSH-certified SCBA or SCSR is observed, have that SCBA or SCSR examined immediately by a qualified service person. If the breathing-gas container is found to be the source of leakage, advise the manufacturer, NIOSH and MSHA (SCSR only) of the problem.

More

CTD001764

Cracking of Aluminum Cylinders

The January 17, 1986, Notice also reported the incidence of neck cracking of certain fiber-glass-wrapped aluminum cylinders. The following is a clarification and summary of that report:

NIOSH has received reports of cracks developing in necks of the following fiber-glass-wrapped aluminum cylinders:

DOT-E 7235 2216 cylinders made before January, 1983

DOT-E 7235 4500 cylinders

DOT-E 8059 4500 cylinders made before June, 1984 for
SCBA other than USD

DOT-E 8059 4500 cylinders made before January 1985 for
USD SCBA

NIOSH has also received preliminary reports of cracks developing in the following unwrapped aluminum cylinders:

DOT-SP 6498 2216 cylinders

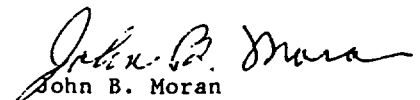
Names and Addresses of Manufacturer's Contacts

Change: Mr. Jay Parker, Pulmosan Safety Equipment Corp., 30-48 Linden Place,
Flushing, NY 11354

To: Mr. Robert Bischler, Pulmosan Safety Equipment Corp., C/O Willson
Safety Products, PO Box 622, Reading, PA 19603

Change: Mr. Joel Kaufman, Glendale Optical Company, 130 Crossways Park Drive,
Woodbury, NY 11797

To: Mr. Jay Parker, Glendale Optical Company, 130 Crossways Park Drive,
Woodbury, NY 11797


John B. Moran
Director
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