

D. Use of SCBA Equipment

1. Personnel will be trained with the procedures covering safe use of respirators in dangerous atmospheres which may be encountered in normal operations or emergencies. Personnel shall be familiar with the procedures and The available respirators.
2. Respirators shall be inspected prior to placement at well site at then,at random times if the operation continues for more than two weeks, or if used in an emergency situation. Inspection will ensure that the respirators are properly used, cleaned, and maintained.
3. Anyone who may use the respirators shall be fully trained in how to insure proper face piece seal. Such items as facial hair (beards or sideburns) and eyeglass temple pieces will not allow a proper seal. Anyone that may be expected to wear respirators should have these items removed before entering a possible toxic atmosphere. A special mask must be obtained for persons who must wear eyeglasses. Contact lenses should not be allowed.
4. Maintenance and care of respirators:
 - a. A program for maintenance and care of respirators shall include the following.
 - Inspection for defects, including leak checks.
 - Cleaning and disinfecting.
 - Repair.
 - Storage.
 - b. Inspection of SCBA equipment used for emergency use shall be at a minimum on a monthly basis and include the following with a permanent record kept of these inspections.
 - Fully charged cylinders.
 - Regulator and warning device operation.
 - Condition of face piece and connections.
 - Elastomer or rubber parts shall be stretched or massaged to keep them pliable and prevent deterioration.
 - c. Routinely used respirators shall be collected, cleaned, and disinfected as frequently as necessary to insure proper protection is provided.
5. Personnel assigned tasks that will require use of self-contained breathing apparatus should be in sound physical condition.
6. Respirators should be worn when:
 - a. Any employee works near the top or on top of any tank unless test reveals less than 20 ppm of H₂S.
 - b. When breaking out any line where H₂S can reasonably be expected.
 - c. When sampling air in areas to determine if toxic concentrations of H₂S exist.
 - d. When working in areas where over 20 ppm H₂S has been detected.
 - e. At any time there is a doubt as to the H₂S level in an area to be entered.