

# TOWN OF WATERTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

**SECTION:** Company Operations  
**SUBJECT:** PASS the Devices  
**REVISED:** 7/2013

## **PURPOSE:**

- A. To help prevent the occurrence of a firefighter being in distress, missing, lost, injured, trapped, or unconscious and not being able to summon assistance.
- B. To provide each firefighter with a device to be worn as part of the SCBA which emits an audible alarm signal in order to summon assistance in the event that the firefighter becomes incapacitated or needs assistance.
- C. To provide each firefighter with training, which went complete will give the firefighter **the knowledge** and skills necessary to inspect, humans, search for, locate, and maintain it working order the PASS device.

## **POLICY:**

- A. Each town of Watertown fire Department SCBA which is placed in service or any piece of apparatus shall be equipped with a PASS device.
- B. Firefighters will not be permitted to operate in any hazardous environment without a PASS device and operation.
- C. The PASS device will be located on the right shoulder strap. The PASS device is an intrigrated into the SCBA and will arm itself whenever the SCBA is charged.
- D. The PASS device shall not be removed from the SCBA by any personnel other than those authorized to perform repairs and maintenance on the device.
- E. The device shall be checked for proper functioning during the monthly truck report performed by the captain, and biweekly by the employees.
- F. The SCBA and PASS device are considered to be as one unit therefore if one or the other is found to be malfunctioning both units will be removed from service.
- G. The chief, once notified of the defective equipment will arrange immediate replacement and or repair of the unit.
- H. Batteries will be replaced when needed. The unit requires four D cell batteries and either AA or AAA batteries.
- I. Training utilizing the PASS devices will be conducted to maintain and skills necessary to use, search for, locate, and maintain it working order the PASS devices. This training is highly recommended for all suppression firefighters and mandatory for all FAST team members.

## **PROCEDURES:**

- A. PASS device inspection:
  - 1. check for visible damage to the device.
  - 2. Push the green alarm button, and loud pulsating distress sound should sound, let the device sound for a minimum of five seconds.
  - 3. When the test is complete shake the device which shall place the device in the armed mode, green lights should flash, let the device stand for one minute, the alarm distress sound should start, let it sound for five seconds.
  - 4. Depressed the yellow button on the side of the device two times to shut the device off and return it to the stowed condition. Test complete.

- B. PASS device malfunction.
  - 1. Whenever a PASS device is found to be malfunctioning, the SCBA will be placed out of service, and the chief notified.
- C. PASS device use.
  - 1. The PASS device may be manually activated by a firefighter in distress by depressing the green button on the device which will produce a loud pulsating distress sound.
  - 2. When in the armed position the device will start to sound a low buy-in distress signal, if the firefighter is not in distress simply tap the device to rearm it.
  - 3. The device and the redundant alarm will sound a low-volume beep as a low battery is detected, replaced the battery.