

Title	Wear and operate breathing apparatus in specialist emergencies		
Level	4	Credits	6

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for fire and rescue service personnel in situations requiring the use of self-contained breathing apparatus (BA) primarily for aggressive interior fire attack and other emergencies.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of the human respiratory system, and the procedures to be followed when wearing BA; perform BA control procedures in an emergency operation; wear BA in emergency operation situations; manage BA for safe use and survivability in emergency fire and rescue operations; and shut down and recommission BA and specialist equipment.</p>
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Classification	Fire and Rescue Services > Fire and Rescue Services - Structural and Industrial
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit 3272, <i>Wear and operate breathing apparatus in general emergencies</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge or skills.
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Guidance Information

- 1 Compliance with the fire and rescue service provider's Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.
- 2 Legislation and guidelines relevant to this unit standard include the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and Occupational Safety and Health Guidelines.
- 3 Assessment against this unit standard may take place under real or practical simulated situations.
- 4 *Confined space* is as defined in AS/NZ 2865:2009 *Confined spaces*, and any activities within a confined space must conform to this standard.
- 5 The maintenance and use of BA must comply with AS/NZS 1715:2009 *Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment*.

6 Definitions

Fire and rescue service provider's requirements refer to policies and procedures on safety and operation set down by each fire and rescue service employer or host organisation.

Gas suits refer to fully-encapsulating Level 4 gas suits that provide head to toe protection for the wearer and the BA against liquids, particulates, vapours, and gases. The suit is fully liquid and gas tight.

Specialist equipment refers to air lines, gas suits, splash suits, and BA main guide lines.

Splash suits refer to one-piece non-encapsulating Level 3 chemical splash suits which provide head to toe protection for the wearer against liquids and particulates. The suit is liquid tight but not fully gas tight.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of the human respiratory system, and the procedures to be followed when wearing BA.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The physiology of breathing and associated conditions of the human body are described and explained in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range respiration, asphyxiation, heat, stress, stroke, exhaustion.
- 1.2 The responsibilities associated with control officers for BA are listed and described in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range entry control officer (ECO), breathing apparatus control officer (BACO).
- 1.3 Hazards associated with the wearing of BA are described in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range extreme cold, under water, set failure.
- 1.4 Procedures associated with the wearing of BA are explained in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range guidelines, testing, safety, set failure, search, emergency evacuation.
- 1.5 Standard tests for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and specialist equipment used in specialist BA operations are explained in accordance with AS/NZS 1715:2009 and the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range type, frequency.

Outcome 2

Perform BA control procedures in an emergency operation.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Rapid deployment boards where supplied are managed in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 2.2 Stage 1 control (ECO) is managed in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range entry control board, tallies, relief crews, rescue teams, emergency procedures, communications, resource requirements, main line use, branch line use.
- 2.3 Stage 2 control (BACO) is explained in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range relief crews, rescue teams, emergency procedures, communications, resource requirements.

Outcome 3

Wear BA in emergency operation situations.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Personal protective clothing is selected and worn in extreme temperature emergency situations in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range 300 degrees Celsius, minus 20 degrees Celsius.
- 3.2 Personal protective equipment is selected and worn for hazardous substance emergencies in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range splash suits, gas suits, air lines (where supplied).
- 3.3 BA main guidelines are established and used in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 3.4 Search procedures are carried out whilst wearing BA in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Outcome 4

Manage BA for safe use and survivability in emergency fire and rescue operations.

Performance criteria

4.1 The environment is continually assessed in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

Range incident development, structural hazards, general hazards.

4.2 Air supply is managed in accordance with the nature of the incident and the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

Range self, crew, task.

4.3 Entrapment procedures are demonstrated in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

Range self, crew.

Outcome 5

Shut down and recommission BA and specialist equipment.

Performance criteria

5.1 BA is shut down in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

5.2 Information is reported and relayed to the ECO in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

5.3 BA and specialist equipment is recommissioned in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

5.4 Documentation is completed in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider’s requirements.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	25 March 2004	31 December 2025
Review	2	21 May 2010	31 December 2025
Review	3	30 September 2021	31 December 2025

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0039
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.