

Title	Wear and operate breathing apparatus in general emergencies		
Level	3	Credits	3

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for fire and emergency personnel in situations requiring the use of self-contained breathing apparatus (BA) primarily for general emergencies.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demonstrate knowledge of BA and its effects on the physiology of the human body; - recommission, test, and wear the BA in simulated conditions; - manage the BA for safe use and survivability; and - shut down and recommission the BA.
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Classification	Fire and Rescue Services > Fire and Rescue Services - Generic Fire Fighting
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Compliance with the fire and emergency agency's Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.
- 2 Assessment against this unit standard must take place under simulated conditions.
- 3 Assessment against outcomes 2, 3, and 4 must be in accordance with the fire and emergency agency's requirements.
- 4 The maintenance and use of equipment must comply with AS/NZS 1715:2009 *Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment* available at <https://www.standards.govt.nz>.
- 5 Definitions
Breathing apparatus (BA) refers to self-contained breathing apparatus.
Fire and emergency agency's requirements refer to policies, procedures, and supporting documentation on safety and operation set down by each fire and emergency agency employer, or host organisation.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of BA and its effects on the physiology of the human body.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The main components, safety features, and procedures of BA are explained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- Range procedures include but are not limited to – types, frequency, and purpose of testing.
- 1.2 Conditions leading to the wearing of BA are described and the necessity of wearing BA is explained.
- Range any potentially irrespirable atmosphere including but not limited to – smoke, dust, poisonous gasses, lack of oxygen, high heat.
- 1.3 The physical and psychological effects from wearing BA are described.
- 1.4 Procedures in case of BA failure are explained.

Outcome 2

Recommission, test, and wear the BA in simulated conditions.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 BA is recommissioned, and routine tests and checks are carried out and recorded.
- Range visual inspection, high pressure test, low pressure test, ancillary and/or safety equipment check, communications check.
- 2.2 BA is donned and started up.
- 2.3 Entry control procedures are established and followed.
- 2.4 Search procedures are carried out whilst wearing BA.
- 2.5 Communication is maintained.

Outcome 3

Manage the BA for safe use and survivability.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Hazards are identified and risks assessed.
- 3.2 Air supply is regularly monitored, assessed, and communicated in accordance with the nature of the incident.
- Range crew, self.

Outcome 4

Shut down and recommission the BA.

Performance criteria

4.1 BA is shut down.

4.2 Information is reported and relayed.

4.3 BA is recommissioned and routine tests and checks are carried out.

Range includes but is not limited to – cleaning, cylinder change, visual inspection, high pressure test, low pressure test, ancillary and/or safety equipment check, communications check.

4.4 Recordings are completed.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 March 1995	31 December 2023
Review	2	27 May 1998	31 December 2023
Review	3	25 March 2004	31 December 2023
Review	4	21 May 2010	31 December 2023
Review	5	30 September 2021	N/A

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>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact The Skills Organisation reviewcomments@skills.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.