What do you need to know about the NFPA standard change?



Changes have been made to the NFPA standard. Learn more about the implementation schedule and what's changed.

Which standards have changed?



NFPA 1981 – Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Emergency Services and NFPA

NFPA 1982 - Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS)

Summary of changes



The standards committee review may affect the design and operation of the SCBA and PASS devices.

NFPA 1981

NFPA 1982



Second stage regulator retention & removal

Incorporates a strength of interface test between the facepiece and second stage regulator to ensure that the second stage regulator will not inadvertently pull out of the facepiece lens.

If the SCBA incorporates a removable regulator, two distinct actions for disconnection shall be required prior to removal of the regulator: pull latch and rotate regulator.



New universal PASS tone

Incorporates a new universal PASS tone to help improve audible detection by the human ear.

- In December 2016, a Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) was issued requiring all manufacturers of PASS devices to change the alarm tone as required in the NFPA 1982, 2013 Edition standard for PASS devices manufactured on December 21, 2016.
 - The new universal PASS alarm tone was incorporated into the NFPA 1982, 2018 Edition standard.



Pneumatic data logging

- Incorporates data logging of air pressure at prescribed time intervals
- Incorporates data logging of pressure milestones (i.e., 100%, 75%, 50%, 35%)
- Incorporates data logging of breathing rate at prescribed time intervals

Note: There is not a requirement to display this information on the SCBA.



Transmitting RF PASS

Incorporates two new tests to the RF PASS section to help improve reliability



Universal EBSS fitting

Incorporation of a standardized EBSS fitting that is universal between SCBA manufacturers

- The fittings are confirmed as Rectus 95 (male) and Rectus 96 (female)
- Incorporates data logging of pressure milestones (i.e., 100%, 75%, 50%, 35%)



Want to learn more?

Follow the links below:

NFPA 1981 - Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained **Breathing Apparatus for Emergency Services**

NFPA 1982 - Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems

Evaluation of products submitted for approval includes in-depth performance and qualification testing.

Current schedule



The standard is marked as 2019 on the cover, but referred to in the body of the standard as the 2018 Edition. We will refer to it as the 2018 Edition.

NFPA 1981

Issuance date August 14, 2018

Effective date September 3, 2018

The last ship date for 2013 Edition SCBA is confirmed as September 3, 2018

The standard is marked as 2018 Edition.



Issuance date November 10, 2017





with an effective date of August 8, 2018 The goal of this TIA was to resynchronize NFPA 1982 with NFPA 1981.



The last ship date for 2013

Edition PASS devices is confirmed as August 31, 2019

Product shipped September 1st, 2019, and beyond will be marked as 2018 Edition.

