

SCSRs

Fire Protection



Best Practice Series BP-84

Self-contained self-rescuers (SCSRs) are designed to provide one hour of breathable air. When donned at the first sign of fire, they can make the difference between life and death during a mine fire. They should only be used in emergency situations. Proper storage, care and inspection of SCSRs will help to ensure that they are ready to use when they are needed most.

Locations

According to your mine's storage plan

- **ALWAYS** store SCSRs in locations where the temperature range is within the manufacturer's guidelines.
- **ALWAYS** conduct a daily visual inspection of your SCSR to ensure that the seals and indicators are intact and functional.
- **ALWAYS** return damaged units to the manufacturer for repair or replacement.
- **ALWAYS** know your mine's SCSR storage plan.
- **ALWAYS** know the donning procedures for the SCSR used at your mine.
- **ALWAYS** weigh and check filter type self-rescuers every 90 days.
- **NEVER** keep in service an SCSR that has a cracked case or severe dents in the unit.
- **NEVER** attempt to repair a damaged SCSR.
- **NEVER** toss or subject your SCSR to physical abuse.
- **NEVER** store an SCSR on a power center.
- **NEVER** use an SCSR to enter into a potentially dangerous area, such as a fire scene. SCSRs are only approved for use to escape.

It Happened . . .

- ☞ It is believed that a roof fall occurred in the loaded track near a portal causing the energized trolley wire to contact the track which caused a fire. A miner found the fire after trolley power was deenergized. Miners evacuated after donning SCSRs.
- ☞ A fire occurred in a newly installed pump transformer. The secondary winding shorted due to an insulation failure. The miners inby were withdrawn and the power was removed. Curtains were used to clear the smoke and the fire was extinguished. SCSRs were used to travel to the intake escapeway.
- ☞ Smoke was detected in the East Mains in the conveyor belt entry. Elevated CO was not detected by the CO sensor located 100 feet inby. Miners evacuated after donning their SCSRs.



Example of SCSR storage location

Arrive Home Alive

**U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration
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