



SCOTT™
Fire & Safety

Immediate Action Required User Safety Notice SN122223

Products:

3M™ Scott™ Cylinder and Valve Assemblies

Impacted Dates:

October 3, 2023 – December 4, 2023

3M™ Scott™ Cylinder and Valve Assemblies are safe to use once the instructions in this notice are carried out.

3M Scott have been made aware of a small number of cylinder valves that experienced noticeable rates of leakage upon initial inspection when the valve handwheel was initially opened. This has been investigated and found to have been caused by an O-ring failure at the bonnet due to incorrect torque on the specific units in question. The root cause has been identified and mitigated, but we are notifying all users of all cylinder and valve assemblies to perform the required inspections of their respirators on a regular basis as defined in our User Instructions provided with the respirator.

Identification and Customer Action

You are receiving this notice because you have been identified by 3M Scott as having purchased cylinders and/or valve assemblies from an authorized distributor that fall within the scope of this Notice. We have asked them to notify you.

If you own cylinder and valve assemblies, please inspect them in accordance with our User Instructions. If, after inspection, leaks are discovered, contact your 3M Scott Fire & Safety Authorized Service Center to complete the repairs required. Please note that it is unlikely a fielded SCBA, having been previously inspected and placed in service would be experiencing leaks of the type mentioned above. All 3M Scott User Instructions contain detailed guidance on the frequency and procedures for inspecting the respirator, including the breathing air cylinder and its components. See examples below in Figures 1. and 2. excerpted from 595373-01_E User Instruction for the 3M™ Scott™ Air-Pak™ X3 Pro Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), NFPA 1981 (2018 Edition).

Before You Begin

Carefully read "Safety Information" on page 7 before beginning any of the procedures in this chapter.

Below is a summary of the requirements and recommendations for operational inspections of respirators:

- Inspect the respirator before each use and after each cleaning. (Clean the respirator after each use. See "Chapter 4: Cleaning & Storing the Respirator" on page 49).
- Inspect respirators for emergency use as frequently as required to ensure the respirator will function properly. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of the U.S. Department of Labor requires at least monthly inspection of respirators for emergency use (29 CFR 1910.134).
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends an inspection for cylinder pressure at least weekly.

Storage conditions at your location or the regulations that apply to your respiratory protection program may require more frequent periodic inspections.

Figure 1

Performing Operational Testing

Testing includes checking the basic operation of the respirator, followed by more thorough checks of the regulator, HUD, sensor module lights, and batteries.

General Testing

- Check that the breathing regulator purge valve (red knob on regulator) is closed (the pointer on the knob points up).
- Fully depress the center of the air saver/donning switch on the top of the E-Z Flo+ regulator or firmly pull the auto air-saver switch on the E-Z Flo C5 regulator latch and release.
- Slowly open the cylinder valve by fully rotating the knob counterclockwise (approximately two-and-one-half turns). Confirm that the following occur:
 - The Vibalert end-of-service time indicator sounds and then stops.
 - The HUD initializes.
 - All lights turn on for 20 seconds before displaying the cylinder's air supply level.
 - If the low battery light remains lit or begins to flash, replace the batteries before proceeding. See "Chapter 5: Replacing Batteries" on page 55.
 - If the respirator is equipped with a Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) device, you will hear three quick chirps when the cylinder valve is opened.
- Check that the remote pressure gauge is operating properly and that its reading is within 10% of the value on the cylinder pressure gauge.
- Don the facepiece or hold the facepiece to your face to create a good seal.
 - Inhale sharply to automatically start the flow of air. Breathe normally from the facepiece to ensure proper operation.
 - Remove the facepiece from your face. Confirm that air flows freely from the facepiece.
- Fully depress the center of the air saver/donning switch on the top of the E-Z Flo+ regulator or firmly pull the auto air-saver switch on the E-Z Flo C5 regulator latch and release. The flow of air from the facepiece will stop.
- Examine the complete respirator for air leaks. No air should leak from any part of the respirator.

Figure 2

We apologize for any inconvenience caused. If you have any additional questions about this Notice please contact your 3M Scott Authorized Service Center, or 3M Scott Technical Support so that a service professional can assist you in completion of the Notice. 3M Scott Technical Support can be contacted at 1-800-247-7257, or scotttechsupport@3m.com, or through the web at www.3M.com/ScottFire.