



NFPA 1989 Standard on Breathing Air Quality for Emergency Services Respiratory Protection 2008 EDITION

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) released a new standard December 31, 2007. The NFPA 1989 standard is a copyrighted document so we cannot include the full text but we have highlighted some of the significant changes. To find this new NFPA document, visit www.nfpa.org, search NFPA 1989, scroll down to the bottom to view 2008 document.



New Air Quality Requirements

Analyte	NFPA 1989 2008 Edition Specification Limits	NFPA 1989 2003 Edition Specification Limits
Oxygen	19.5-23.5 %	19.5-23.5 %
Carbon Monoxide	5 ppm	10 ppm
Carbon Dioxide	1000 ppm	1000 ppm
Condensed Oil Mist and Particulate	2.0 mg/m ³	5 mg/m ³
Dewpoint	No requirement to report measurement	-65°F
Water	24 ppm	24 ppm
Total Hydrocarbons	No requirement to report measurement	25 ppm
Total Non-methane Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	25 ppm	No requirement to report measurement
Odor	No/slight odor acceptable	No/slight odor acceptable
Nitrogen	75-81 %	No requirement to report measurement

Air Quality Periodic Requirements

Quarterly air analysis of samples shall be tested by an accredited laboratory and when contamination is suspected.

Air Samples

Air samples shall be taken downstream from purification components and prior to air storage cylinders. It is acceptable to use a remote fill hose or air sampling port, if samples are not able to be collected from the inside the containment fill station.

Special Testing and Procedures for Maintenance Conditions

Air samples shall be collected before and after changing the purification components or other times when breathing air contamination could occur, such as, after any alterations, maintenance, repair or relocation. Passing test results shall be received before returning the air compressor to service.

Online Report Access

Use TRI's online report access to receive your results in 24 hours after receipt of sample
To request access visit this link http://www.airtesting.com/account_setup.php

Special Testing and Procedures for Contaminated Air

When a sample fails to pass specification, air system must be removed from service, the cause determined, corrective action taken, retest performed, and passing air test received before returning the system to service.

Compressed Breathing Air Systems

Compressors must be operated for at least 30 minutes each week with two condensate drain cycles. Air stored in steel cylinders be replaced at least annually. The air system intake location must be acceptable and marked with a placard.

Special Circumstances (See Appendix – suggested procedure)

In the event of an emergency personnel's death, unconsciousness, or heart attack, the SCBA tank and chain of custody should be submitted to an accredited laboratory for analysis within 24 hours.

Records

The Emergency service organization shall maintain documentation from the accredited testing laboratory for 5 years. The accredited testing laboratory shall maintain documentation for 5 years.

Test Methods

TRI's AIHA accredited Air Testing laboratory is in full compliance with this new NFPA 1989 Breathing Air Quality for Emergency Services Respiratory Protection 2008 Edition.