

**Title: Hardisty Fire - Rescue Dept.  
Protective Clothing & SCBA**

**Policy No: 2301**

**Approval: Town Council  
Effective Date: April 26, 2006**



Supersedes Policy No:

**Policy Statement:** The Council of the Town of Hardisty will support the industry standard which will apply to all members of the Department required to work in hazardous environments, to maximize fire fighter safety through the proper use of protective clothing.

**General:**

1. The Fire Chief or his designate shall be responsible for ensuring that all members operating within the hazardous perimeter of an incident are properly attired and using the appropriate protective clothing and equipment. Any member who is in violation of this policy shall be ordered to promptly leave the hazardous area.
2. Each member shall wear protective clothing and use equipment appropriate for the hazards to which he is exposed.
3. Each member shall properly maintain the protective clothing and equipment that have been issued to him and that are carried on the apparatus to which he has been assigned.
4. Any equipment or protective clothing that is found to be unsafe or inoperable shall be red tagged, removed from service immediately, and forwarded for repair.

**References:**

1. NFPA 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1983, 1500

**Structural Fire Fighting:**

1. Each member assigned to fight structural fires shall be issued protective clothing and equipment that comply with all applicable NFPA standards and local requirements. These items shall include: helmet (1972), boots (1974), gloves (1973), bunker coat and pants (1971), balaclava (1971), coveralls (1975) and SCBA and face piece (1981).
2. The Officer in charge shall determine when and if it is safe to remove some or all of the protective clothing.

3. To assist members with identifying rank at an incident scene, helmets are color coded as follows:

White: Chief Officers  
Red: Captains/Lieutenants  
Yellow: Fire Fighters/Operators  
Black: Probationary Fire Fighters / Junior Fire Fighters

**Wild Land Fire Fighting:**

1. Protective clothing and equipment that meet NFPA 1977, 1983 Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wild Land fire fighting shall be provided for use by each member. This includes: nomex coveralls, gloves, boots, helmets, eye and hearing protection and respirator.
2. Wild land gear may be worn in lieu of structural protective clothing when fighting grass or brush fires.

**Vehicle Rescue:**

1. Personnel assigned to standby with charged hose lines shall be dressed in full turnout gear consisting of helmet, bunker coat and pants, approved boots, balaclava and gloves. SCBA shall be worn if Incident Command deems it required.

**Hazardous Materials Incidents:**

1. All Personnel assigned shall be dressed in full turnout gear consisting of helmet, bunker coat and pants, approved boots, balaclava and gloves and SCBA if required by the emergency response guide for dangerous goods.

**Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA):**

1. All SCBA used by the Department shall be comply with NFPA 1981.
2. Unless the safety of the atmosphere can be determined by testing and continuous monitoring, all personnel shall use SCBA while working in areas where:
  - 1) the atmosphere is hazardous,
  - 2) the atmosphere is suspected of being hazardous,
  - 3) the atmosphere may rapidly become hazardous.
3. Members wearing SCBA shall always work in teams of at least two (2) members each.
4. SCBA and spare cylinders shall be kept on each apparatus and be available for immediate use.
5. SCBA shall not be removed until the Officer in Charge has determined that it is safe to do so.
6. A personal alert safety system (PASS) alarm that complies with NFPA 1982 shall be assigned to each SCBA and shall be activated whenever the SCBA is in use.