
Section: 2.8 Personal Protective Equipment - Firefighting

Effective Date: 08/26/2009

Revision Date: 08/26/2009

Approved by: SMF Officers 08/26/2009

SCOPE

This guideline applies to all South Metro Fire Department personnel responsible for emergency response.

PURPOSE

This guideline serves to ensure compliance with Federal and State safety regulations, by identifying structural firefighting protective clothing and its use by department personnel for the purpose of protecting firefighters against the adverse environmental effects of conditions encountered during firefighting and related duties.

This guideline shall comply with 29 CFR Part 1910; Subpart L; Fire Protection (1910.156 (e); Protective clothing).

PROCEDURE

- A. Fire department personnel shall wear all protective clothing and equipment listed in this section when working at Structure Fires, Vehicle Fires, Dumpster Fires, wildland fire or when directed.
- B. Only protective clothing and equipment approved by the department may be worn.
- C. Protective clothing and equipment shall consist of the following:
 - 1. **Head Protection** – Head protection shall be achieved by the wearing of a helmet, ear covers and hood which meet the performance, construction, and testing standards required in the current *NFPA Standard 1972; Helmets For Structural Fire Fighting*.
 - 2. **Eye & Face Protection** – Eye and face protection shall be achieved by the wearing of either protective eye and face devices which meet the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.133; or an SCBA facepiece which meets the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.134 and the performance, construction, and testing standards required in the current *NFPA Standard 1981; Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Fighters*.
 - 3. **Respiratory Protection** – Equipment intended for respiratory protection shall be worn in accordance with the department's *Respiratory Protection Plan, Section 2.6*.
 - 4. **Body Protection** - Body protection shall be achieved by the wearing of a fire-resistive coat, in combination with protective trousers, which meet the performance, construction, and testing standards required in the current *NFPA Standard 1971; Protective Clothing For Structural Fire Fighting*. The wearing of either a coat or trousers without its liner/vapor barrier is not permitted.
 - 5. **Foot & Leg Protection** - Foot and leg protection shall be achieved by the wearing of protective boots, in combination with protective trousers, which meet the performance, construction, and testing standards required in the current *NFPA Standard 1974; Protective Footwear For Structural Fire Fighting*.
 - 6. **Hand Protection** - Hand protection shall be achieved by the wearing of protective gloves, or a glove system, which meet the performance, construction, and testing standards required in the current *NFPA Standard 1974; Gloves For Structural Fire Fighting*.
 - 7. **Other Equipment** – Additional equipment to be carried by firefighters shall include, but not be limited to, a flashlight, spanner wrench, webbing with clip or carabiner, cable cutter and door wedges.
- D. Clothing and equipment that is found to be defective or in disrepair shall be taken out of service and reported to an officer to arrange for repair or replacement.