

# Guide to complying with NFPA 1851 (2014 edition)

#### Overview

NFPA 1851 (2014 Edition) went into effect on August 15, 2013. Fire departments should get a copy of the document and make adjustments to their standard operating procedures as necessary.

Additionally, departments should test their protective clothing and removing from service any clothing that fails the advanced testing procedures or exceeds its service life.

#### Records

The first section of NFPA 1851 deals with the records that departments must keep on each element of protective ensembles. Departments must keep at least the following records:

- 1. Person to whom element is issued.
- 2. Date and condition when issued.
- 3. Manufacturer and model name or design.
- 4. Manufacturer's identification number, lot number or serial number.
- 5. Month and year of manufacture.
- 6. Dates and findings from advanced inspections.
- 7. Dates and findings of advanced cleaning or decontamination.
- 8. Reason for advanced cleaning or decontamination and who performed cleaning or decontamination.
- 9. Dates of repairs, who performed the repairs and a brief description of the repairs.
- 10. Date of retirement.
- 11. Date and method of disposal.

## Selection

NFPA 1851's section on selection explains what the department should consider before purchasing protective clothing.

The department should perform a risk assessment, and based on the results, develop its purchase specifications for protective clothing.

# Inspection

The section on inspection identifies two levels of inspection for protective clothing: **routine** and **advanced**.

**Routine** inspections are the first level. The fire fighter to whom the department issues the protective clothing performs the routine inspections.

Your department should train each fire fighter to perform a routine inspection. Your department's standard operating procedures (SOPs) should contain a requirement for each fire fighter to complete a routine inspection of their protective clothing after each use.

**Advanced** inspections are much more involved. Fire departments can contract with an independent service provider (ISP) to conduct advanced inspections, or train specific personnel for the task. Training for department personnel must come from a verified ISP or the manufacturer of the protective clothing.

In addition to training, advanced inspections require special equipment, including a light for the light test, a bucket with an alcohol mixture for the puddle test, and a pressure apparatus for testing the moisture barrier.

## Care and maintenance

The fire department should provide a means for cleaning and decontaminating protective clothing. Routine cleaning is the responsibility of the fire fighter and can be as simple as brushing off debris or rinsing the protective clothing with water.

Advanced cleaning should be performed with approved equipment by trained personnel.

All repairs to protective clothing must be performed by the original manufacturer, ISP, or a member of the fire department who has had training in the repair of protective clothing. The training must come from the manufacturer or a verified ISP.

# Storage and retirement

NFPA 1851 provides guidelines on proper storage of protective clothing.

Fire departments should use NFPA 1851 in developing standard operating procedures for special incidents. This includes procedures for handling and maintaining custody of protective clothing worn by fire fighters at incidents where serious injury or fatalities occur.

Departments must destroy or dispose of retired elements in a manner ensuring that they will not be used in any fire fighting or emergency activities, including live fire training. (Departments can continue to use retired elements for training that does not involve live fire.)

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION COMPLIANCE INSPECTION GUIDE

FDID#	Department Name		Name of Department Head			Department Head Title	
Mailing Address for Administrative Office			City			County	Zip Code
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Phone Number for Administrative Office FAX Numb			for Administrativ	ve Office	Email for Administ	rative Office	
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Physical	Address for Administrativ	e Office		City		County	Zip Code
Fire Chief	Name (If Applicable)	Physical Address for Fire Chief				Phone # for Fire Chief	
Fire Mars	hal Name (If Applicable)	Physical Address for Fire Marshal				Phone # for Fire Marshal	
Training (	Officer Name (If Applicable)	Physical Address for Training Officer				Phone # for Training Officer	
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The follow	ving information is require	ed to be readily	available for	review by	y commission stat	f during an insp	ection. Any
	information not available						•
<ul> <li>□ Department utilizing FIDO to report Firefighter Injuries – Chapter 435.23</li> <li>□ Courage to Be Safe So Everyone Goes Home Program is required of certified fire protection personnel by December 1, 2015 – Chapter 435.25</li> <li>□ SOP for Protective Clothing Use, Selection, Care and Maintenance – Chapter 435.1 (3)</li> <li>□ SOP for SCBA Use, Selection, Care and Maintenance – Chapter 435.3 (5) (6)</li> <li>□ SOP for PASS Use, Selection, Care and Maintenance SOP – Chapter 435.9</li> <li>□ SOP for Incident Management System – Chapter 435.11</li> <li>□ SOP for Personnel Accountability System (May be part of the Incident Management System SOP) – Chapter 435.13</li> <li>□ SOP for Operating at Emergency Incidents (May be part of the Incident Management System SOP) – Chapter 435.15</li> </ul>							
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	ng Air Records that comp	-		napter 4	35.3 (4)		
☐ SCBA Cylinder Hydrostatic Test Records – Chapter 435.3 (5)							
☐ SCBA Annual Full-Function Test Records – Chapter 435.3 (6)							
☐ SCBA Duty Period Inspection Records for In-Service Units – Chapter 435.3 (3)							
☐ Reserve SCBA Weekly Inspection Records – Chapter 435.3 (3)							
☐ Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) In Service Duty Period Inspection Records – Chapter 435.9 (3)							
<ul> <li>□ SCBA Maintenance Authorization Certificate – Chapter 435.9(4)</li> <li>□ SCBA Full Function Test Machine Calibration Certificate – Chapter 435.3(4)</li> </ul>							
☐ SCBA Full Function Test Machine Calibration Certificate – Chapter 435.3(4) ☐ SCBA Bottle/Cylinder Hydrostatic Testing Vendor DOT Certificate – Chapter 435.3(5)							
☐ SCBA Bottle/Cylinder Hydrostatic Testing Veridor BOT Certificate – Chapter 435.3(5) ☐ SCBA cylinder fill records – Chapter 435.3(4) – NFPA 1989							
☐ SCBA cylinder hill records = Chapter 433.3.(4) = NPPA 1969 ☐ Inspect PPE and SCBA for On-Duty Personnel.							
☐ Inspect FFE and SOBA for On-Duty Fersonnel. ☐ A risk assessment for selection of structure and proximity protective clothing is required of all departments by February							
	7, or prior to the selection	-			-		o <sub>y</sub> i oblidaly