

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

30-Year Life Cylinder

QUESTION

Why is Scott introducing the 30-year life cylinder?

ANSWER

Scott Safety has listened to the fire service concerning the need to extend the useful cylinder life beyond that of the traditional cylinder. The introduction of the 30-year life cylinder reinforces the commitment of Scott Safety to provide our customers with a selection of products that allows them to select the option that provides the best value across the life of their product.

QUESTION

What are the benefits of the 30-year life cylinder?

ANSWER

The 30-year life cylinder provides a budget friendly option for those departments looking to "stretch their dollar." With a life expectancy up to *30 years, departments may not be as likely to replace cylinders as frequently, thus providing a lower cost of ownership.

*Cylinders must undergo additional testing before they are fully approved for 30 years.

QUESTION

What sizes and pressure ratings are available in the 30-year life cylinder? are being manufactured?

ANSWER

There will be three different cylinder durations available: 30-minute, 45-minute, a 60-minute cylinder based on the NIOSH breathing rate of 40 liters per minute. The 30-year life cylinder will only be available in a 4500 psi pressure rating.

QUESTION

Is it easy to identify a Scott Safety 30-year life cylinder?

ANSWER

Yes, Scott Safety has placed a 1 ¼" blue band around the top of each 30-year life cylinder for easy identification.



QUESTION

Is the material construction the same as that of a traditional 15-year carbon composite cylinder?

ANSWER

No, the 30-year life cylinder utilizes additional carbon as part of its construction. This is due to the more stringent testing that the 30-year life cylinder must endure as part of the DOT approval process. The fiberglass and gel coat are identical to that of a traditional 15-year cylinder.

QUESTION

How does the weight compare to that of a traditional 15 year carbon composite cylinder?

ANSWER

The 30-year life cylinder is slightly heavier than that of a traditional 15 year carbon composite cylinder. This is due to the difference in material construction.

| | 15 Year Cylinder* | 30 Year Cylinder* | Weight Change* | % Increase |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| 30-Minute | 7.65 | 8.05 | 2.50 | 5.23% |
| 45-Minute | 10.05 | 10.85 | 1.10 | 7.96% |
| 60-Minute | 12.65 | 13.95 | 1.74 | 10.28% |

**CGA cylinders were empty and weights are in pounds.

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QUESTION

Can the 30-year life cylinders be used on any Scott Air-Pak SCBA?

ANSWER

The 30-year life cylinders are currently approved on the NFPA 2013 edition Air-Pak 75 and Air-Pak X3 SCBA, in addition to a multitude of other SCBA configurations. Additional approvals are pending. While DOT approved, the 30-year life cylinders are not TC approved and are restricted from use and transport into Canada.

| Product | Approval Status |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Air-Pak X3, CGA | Yes |
| Air-Pak X3, Snap Change | Yes |
| Air-Pak 75 | Yes |
| Air-Pak NxG7 | Yes |
| Air-Pak 50 | Yes |
| Air-Pak NxG2 | Yes |
| Air-Pak 2.2/3.0/4/5 | Yes |
| Air-Pak 75i | Yes |
| Air-Pak 50i | Yes |
| ISCBA | Yes |
| SWAT-Pak | Yes |

QUESTION

What are the hydrotest requirements for the 30-year life cylinders?

ANSWER

The 30-year life cylinders have the same hydrotest requirements as any other traditional composite cylinder used in the fire service. It is necessary to hydrostatically test the cylinders a minimum of every five years.

QUESTION

What is the service life for the 30-year life cylinders?

ANSWER

The service life is defined as a maximum of 30 years, as dictated by the Department of Transportation's policy for composite cylinders, Special Permit 14232.

QUESTION

What additional testing requirements must the 30-year life cylinder undergo?

ANSWER

Under DOT-SP 14232, there is a special provision for a recall program that requires Luxfer to randomly sample and test (30) cylinders of each design type which have been in service for 10 and 15 years. Should the sample batch of cylinders fail the design qualification testing at either the 10 or 15 year intervals, the 30-year cylinder design will be remanded to a 15 year approval. Upon successful completion of the aforementioned design qualification tests, all manufactured cylinders of a like design will be granted full 30-year approval.