



APEX FIRE SERVICES

NFPA 1851 Training

Selection, Care & Maintenance of Personal Protective Ensembles

Apex Fire Services in conjunction with the Fire Code Academy is offering a 6 hour CEU credit seminar on NFPA 1851; the Selection, Care & Maintenance of Personal Protective Ensembles (PPE). This in-depth hands-on seminar covers all aspects of compliance with manufacturer guidelines, NFPA 1851 and the Specific Safety Requirements of the Ohio BWC - Ohio Administrative Code 4123:1-21.

This advanced, technical level training is intended for personnel responsible for performing advanced maintenance on personal protective ensembles (PPE) for structural and proximity fire fighting and for individuals responsible for department or organization safety programs.

Seminar Highlights & Benefits

- Guide to establishing and implementing a Selection, Care & Maintenance Program, including SOP's
- Ensure that personal protective ensembles (PPE) are functioning properly during their service life through routine and advanced inspection in conjunction with complete liner inspection
- Understanding department and personnel responsibilities around PPE and maintaining that partnership
- Reduce liability to the municipality or industrial fire department through increased safety procedures
- Extend the serviceable life of PPE through proper education of the end user
- Establish purchasing guidelines based upon the specific needs of the department and key personnel
- Protect firefighters from avoidable injury and illness - before, during and after a fire ground event
- Increase awareness of problems and issues associated with PPE



Our Partners in Education:

The Fire Code Academy
Educational Partner
www.FireCodeAcademy.com

Fire Fighter Cancer Foundation
Educational Partner
www.ffcancer.org

When: Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011 - 9a—5p

Where: Truro Twp Fire Department
Station 162
6305 East Livingston Avenue
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Credits: **6 CEU Credit Hours**

Cost: \$99 per person

Register Online www.firecodeacademy.com

Lunch and SCAM Program
binder provided.

449 Industry Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43204
(877) 461-APEX
(614) 274-6400

www.apexfireservices.com



*Professionals dedicated to comprehensive care
and maintenance of personal protective ensembles.*

Selection, Care & Maintenance Program Details

Why establish an NFPA 1851 compliant Selection, Care & Maintenance (SCAM) Program?

As the demands and complexities of events have increased, so have the risks to fire fighters and other first responders. Although the risks to a first responder can never be eliminated, they can be effectively managed to an acceptable level within any fire department or corporate brigade.

The overall goal of personal protective ensemble (PPE) is to provide the end user an envelope of protection from multiple hazards and repeated exposures. For fire fighting, the PPE is a system of layered components that work in unison to comprise an ensemble. Fire departments and organizations have a responsibility to protect their employees by providing them with PPE that is appropriate for the hazards they are expected to encounter.

Fire departments and organizations have a responsibility to train their employees on the proper use of their PPE and establish a selection, care and maintenance (SCAM) program that will reduce the safety and health risks associated with contaminated, damaged or improperly maintained PPE. The majority of the failures seen and associated with PPE, are often the result of improper selection, poor maintenance, inadequate care, excessive wear and improper use from insufficient training.

Goals and Objectives of a SCAM Program

The goal of any fire department or organization should be to establish a SCAM program that provides for an ensemble that is appropriate for the intended use and to maintain the ensemble in a safe and usable condition to provide the level protection it was selected for.

Governing Standards and Regulations

Although most states have laws requiring fire departments and organizations to provide and maintain PPE for its employees, few provide detailed information on how to comply with such laws or regulations.

NFPA 1851, 2008 edition, Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, was created to provide criteria for the development of a SCAM program to minimize the safety and health risks associated with inappropriate, poorly maintained, contaminated or damaged PPE. Although an organization may not be required to adopt an NFPA standard by law, NFPA 1851 has the advantage of being recognized and accepted as the most technically accurate and current document available regarding the issue of selection, care and maintenance for PPE.

Standard Operating Procedures

Initially, instituting a SCAM program may appear overwhelming. However this can be managed by bringing the program on line over time. It is first paramount to recognize the importance and need for a SCAM program. The next step is to create the SCAM program by developing the written Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) that will become the foundation of the SCAM program. SOP's are the backbone of any SCAM program and document how each program part is to be addressed.

Potential Legal Impact

By not having a formal SCAM program for the selection, care and maintenance of PPE, departments and organizations may find it nearly impossible to defend themselves from litigation should an injury, illness or, death result from the improper selection, improper use, poor maintenance and inadequate care of PPE.

Although adopting and implementing an NFPA 1851 compliant Program would be regarded as the best option to address this issue, it is imperative that the authority having jurisdiction adopt and implement some type of formal SCAM program.

Because most organizations have established a precedent by adopting and implementing other NFPA standards, it could be argued that the organization was negligent in not following through with adopting NFPA 1851, especially with the recognition and status given to NFPA 1851 which has been approved as an American National Standard.

Benefits of a SCAM Program

The major benefits of creating and implementing a SCAM program include but are not limited to:

- Providing a higher level of protection to users through proper selection
- Maintaining a higher level of protection through a care and maintenance program
- Defending decisions by demonstrating a systematic approach to selection, care and maintenance
- Cost savings
- Smarter purchasing
- Increasing serviceable life of PPE
- Accurate record keeping and data collection
- Determining needs more efficiently
- Identify trends



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