



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Aviation
Administration

Advisory Circular

Subject: AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIRE
FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, TOOLS AND
CLOTHING

Date: 9/30/2008
Initiated by: AAS-300

AC No.: 150/5210-14B
Change:

- 1. PURPOSE.** This advisory circular (AC) contains references to the minimum requirements for the selection and performance of aircraft rescue and firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE), self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and powered rescue tools. This AC is designed to assist airport management in the development of local procurement specifications for airport fire departments. Equipment meeting the standards in this advisory circular will qualify as meeting the intent of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 139, *Certification of Airports*.
- 2. CANCELLATION.** AC 150/5210-14A, *Airport Fire and Rescue Personnel Protective Clothing*, dated July 13, 1995, is canceled.
- 3. APPLICATION.** The FAA recommends the use of National Fire Protection Association Standards (NFPA) as outlined in this AC. The standards referenced herein are recommended by the FAA for applications at all airports regardless of the airport index. The NFPA standards that address PPE and SCBA and powered rescue tools should be considered as the minimum acceptable standard when purchased under federally funded projects and are an acceptable means for compliance with 14 CFR Part 139, *Certification of Airports*.
- 4. PRINCIPAL CHANGES:**

 - a. The NFPA Standards referenced in this advisory circular are adopted by reference.
 - b. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus have been added.
 - c. Powered Rescue Tools and have been added.
- 5. METRIC UNITS.** To promote an orderly transition to metric units, the AC contains both English and metric conversions. The metric conversions may not be exact metric equivalents and, until there is an official changeover to the metric system, the English dimensions will govern.

6. COPIES OF THE AC. The Office of Airport Safety and Standards makes ACs available to the public through the internet. These ACs may be found through the FAA home page (www.faa.gov). A printed copy of this and other ACs can be ordered from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Subsequent Business Office, Ardmore East Business Center, 3341 Q 75th Avenue, Landover, MD 20785.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. R. White for".

Michael J. O'Donnell
Director of Airport Safety and Standards

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Overview. This advisory circular (AC) provides the basic guidelines to identify and establish requirements and operational capabilities within an aircraft rescue and fire fighting (ARFF) department for personal protective equipment (PPE), self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and powered rescue tools. To properly use this document, refer to the appropriate National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard that corresponds to items you intend to procure.

1.2. Adoption of NFPA Standards. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recommends the use of these NFPA standards as the minimum performance requirements.

1.3. The following NFPA standards, recommended practices, and guides should be consulted to obtain minimum performance requirements:

a. NFPA 1981, 2007 Edition, *Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services*

b. NFPA 1936, 2005 Edition, *Standard on Powered Rescue Tools;*

c. NFPA 1971, 2007 Edition, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.*

CHAPTER TWO: ADMINISTRATION

2.1. How to Order NFPA Standards. NFPA Standards can be ordered from: 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101 or through the internet at www.NFPA.org.

CHAPTER THREE: PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

3.1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Must meet the requirements of NFPA 1971, 2007 Edition, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.*

3.2. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Must meet the requirements of NFPA 1981, 2007 Edition, *Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services*

3.3. Powered Rescue Tools. Must meet the requirements of NFPA 1936, 2005 Edition, *Standard on Powered Rescue Tools.*

Listed below are additional reference documents applicable to equipment procured under this AC. These documents will provide guidance on operation, care and maintenance. This list of documents in this appendix are for informational purposes only.

NFPA 402, 2008 Edition, *Guide for Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting Operations*;

NFPA 414, 2007 Edition, *Standard for Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting Vehicles*;

NFPA 1404 , 2006 Edition, *Standard for Fire Service Respiratory Protection Training*;

NFPA 1500, 2007 Edition, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*;

NFPA 1581, 2005 Edition, *Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program*;

NFPA 1851, 2008 Edition, *Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*;

NFPA 1852, 2008 Edition, *Standard on Selection, Care and Maintenance of Open-Circuit Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)*.

NFPA 1975, 2004 Edition, *Standard on Station/Work Uniforms for Fire and Emergency Services*;

NFPA 1982, 2007 Edition, *Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS)*;

NFPA 1983, 2006 Edition, *Standard on Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services*;

NFPA 1989, 2008 Edition, *Standard on Breathing Air Quality for Emergency Services Respiratory Protection*;

NFPA 1999, 2008 Edition, *Standard on Protective Clothing for Emergency Medical Operations*.