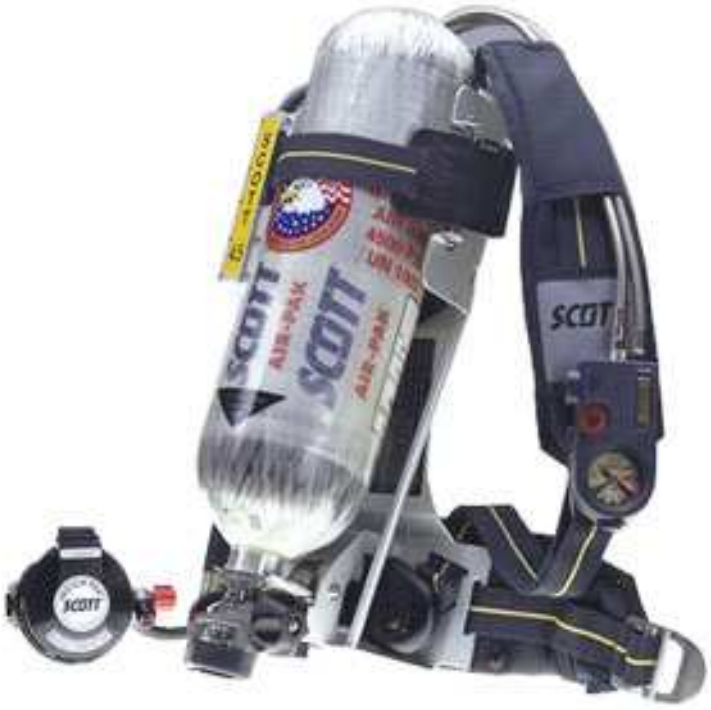
Scott Health & Safety

Air-Pak® **Fifty**™ *SCBA*

Questions & Answers



About Scott's Air-Pak Fifty SCBA

Q: What is the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA?

A: The Air-Pak Fifty SCBA is the continuing technological advancement of Scott breathing apparatus. It combines Scott's proven performance and safety systems with enhanced user comfort as well as optional accessories to meet the daily demands of Scott product users.

Q: How was the Air-Pak SCBA developed?

A: The Air-Pak SCBA was developed with continuous input from scores of Scott fire service and industrial users. These users urged Scott to continue to develop new SCBA alternatives that would promote user comfort, while continuing to provide the high performance characteristics which have always distinguished the Air-Pak SCBA.

Q: Will Air-Pak 2.2/3.0/4.5 SCBA continue to be offered?

A: Yes. Now Scott users have the option of choosing either the lightweight wireform backframe of the Air-Pak 2.2/3.0/4.5 SCBA or the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA with its one piece aluminum alloy backframe.

Q: How do you describe the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA?

A: The Air-Pak Fifty SCBA features a one-piece backframe and streamlined harness system. The backframe design houses the same performance systems users have found as so valuable on the Air-Pak 2.2/3.0/4.5. These performance systems include the E-Z Flo® regulator, AV-2000® facepiece, Vibralert® and Beacon Alarm™ system, lightweight cylinder selections, and Scott's unique pressure reducer and Pak-Alert SE® personal alarm.

Q: Does the Air-Pak Fifty meet the latest NFPA standards?

A: Yes. The Air-Pak Fifty is equipped with two alarms as required by NFPA-1981 Breathing Apparatus Standard for SCBA manufactured after September 1, 1999.

The first low air alarm system is the industry leading Vibralert pioneered by Scott in the early 1980's. This system, located conveniently in the mask mounted regulator, warns the user of low cylinder condition by utilizing both an audible signal and gentle vibration of the facepiece. The second, redundant, alarm is an audible bell located on the left side of the shoulder harness. An optional third system, the Beacon Alarm, provides additional protection by alerting the wearer to low cylinder condition with a clear visual signal at the facepiece.

Another Scott first, the Pak-Alert 1000 distress alarm, set the standard for automatic activation of a PASS device in 1995. The new NFPA standard for PASS devices (1998 edition) requires automatic activation and a ramp up of pre-alert tones. Scott pioneered automatic activation, and the Pak- Alert SE meets and exceeds all aspects of the latest NFPA standard, along with incorporating several user friendly functions.

Q: What advantages does the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA's backframe offer?

A: The backframe is designed to provide a compact housing system for the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA's performance systems while promoting a comfortable fit.

Constructed of a lightweight aircraft aluminum alloy, the backframe follows the shape of the user's back. The backframe places the bulk of the SCBA's weight on the user's hips, where wrap-around wings provide comfortable hip support. The result is a design intended to minimize shoulder fatigue and give the user maximum freedom of movement.

Q: What are the advantages of the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA harness system?

A: Besides promoting user comfort, the harness system is constructed with a heavy braided Kevlar® webbing. This design is far superior to some competitive units which are constructed with a less durable fabric material and require interior stainless steel cables.

Ease of maintenance is promoted because the harness system eliminates bolts and screws. The harness is attached to the backframe because it is woven through retaining slots in the backframe.

Q: Are pads available?

A: Yes. The Air-Pak Fifty SCBA comes standard with shoulder and hip pads to enhance comfort. In addition, Scott padding contains a batted material similar to the quilted-type material used as padding inside high quality turnout gear. Many competitive SCBA come with a foam material inside padding. Unlike the higher quality batted material, foam tends to break down over time.

Q: Why are oversized harness fasteners featured on the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA harness system?

A: Oversized parachute-style harness fasteners permit smooth, efficient adjustments with gloved hands. This permits quick, easy donning and doffing.

Q: How does the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA cylinder retention system work?

A: The retention system includes a durable Kevlar retention strap fastened by means of a cam-over-center slide and double-locking latch. This arrangement permits ease of cylinder changes and readily accommodates 30, 45-minute and one-hour cylinders.

Q: What other components come standard with the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA?

A: The SCBA is supplied with the belt-mounted regulator holder.

Q: Is a carrying case available?

A: Yes. A rigid, hard plastic case is available for Air-Pak Fifty SCBA. The hard cases with non-skid surfaces are stackable to permit easy SCBA storage. Also available is the Scott soft case.

Q: What options are available?

A: The Air-Pak Fifty SCBA is available with two significant options — the Pak-Alert SE distress alarm and a personal issue regulator.

The Pak-Alert SE was the first user distress alarm offering automatic activation because of its integration with the SCBA's air circuit. An important feature because it includes dual alarms, Pak-Alert SE alarm helps promote user safety.

Personal issue regulators are now possible because the E-Z Flo regulator may be equipped with a quick-connect coupling. That means each SCBA user may now be issued his or her own individual facepiece and regulator. This may reduce equipment costs because individuals issued their own equipment may tend to take better care of it.

In addition, the Air-Pak Fifty SCBA is available with other options, including various communications devices that integrate into the AV-2000 facepiece. These devices can be used for specific applications from fire suppression to confined space operations depending on user needs.

Other options include an extended duration airline connection, an EBSS (buddy breather) connection, quick-charge, chest strap and polyester facepiece bag.

The Quick Charge feature allows refilling of the cylinder without removing the cylinder and valve assembly from the Air-Pak backframe.