

STANISLAUS CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
POLICIES & PROCEDURES

ARTICLE: C-67  
SECTION: Operations Division  
DATE: February 27, 2010  
SUPERSEDES: NEW  
TITLE: Oxygen Cylinder Exchange

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to maintain an adequate level of service and a constant level of readiness for emergency medical responders. This procedure will assist district employees in determining when an oxygen cylinder is considered “Empty” and should be exchanged, as well adhering to EMS Agency Recommended Guidelines.

II. SCOPE

The scope of this procedure shall apply to all district operational employees who are directly involved in daily emergency medical operations.

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Division 2.5, Chapter 5, Sections 1797.220 and 1798 (a) and Title 22, Section 100168.. Oxygen supply shall be sufficient to provide a patient with not less than ***10 liters per minute for a time span of 20 minutes*** through a Non-Rebreather mask.

This indicates that oxygen cylinders shall not drop below 500 psi. during medical operations or while in storage. Oxygen cylinders reaching 500 psi. shall be considered “Empty” and changed out immediately with a full cylinder.

SCFPD “First-Out” units shall carry one spare oxygen cylinder. This will provide back-up oxygen in the event the primary bottle has been exhausted on-scene during medical care.

All spare oxygen cylinders carried on SCFPD apparatus shall be contained within the identified compartment only. Cylinders not within the EMS bag shall be securely fastened to eliminate potential movement and/or falling from the identified compartment. EMS bags shall be carried in the properly identified compartment only.

III. INVENTORY / ORDERING

All SCFPD stations have been equipped with a stationary floor rack for spare cylinders. The spare rack shall contain a maximum of four cylinders only, except station #32. Any additional cylinders shall be delivered to Station #32 via the on-duty battalion chief.

It shall be the responsibility of all station personnel to maintain adequate amount of spare cylinders at each station.

It shall be the responsibility of the Station #32 Company Officers to place all orders when the "Full" rack has reached a minimum of four "Full" bottles. Orders shall not be placed until this number has been reached. Turn around time from the vendor usually occurs within a few days on a normal schedule. In the event of an emergency, the on-duty battalion chief shall be notified for approval before emergency orders are placed.

IV. CYLINDER TESTING / REPAIRS

It shall be the responsibility of the independent supplying contractor to ensure any/all repairs and hydrostatic testing occurs within industry standards and time frames. At no time shall any SCFPD personnel attempt to repair any oxygen cylinder. If damage occurs, the cylinder shall immediately be drained away from all flammable sources and tagged out of service for repair. The on-duty Battalion Chief shall be notified when a cylinder is placed out-of-service or damaged.

Written by: B/C Mike Wapnowski

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: March 9, 2010