

# ORDER

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SW 3900.27A

SOUTHWEST REGION

11/20/00

## **SUBJ: MAINTENANCE OF EMERGENCY ESCAPE BREATHING SYSTEM (EEBS)**

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- 1. PURPOSE.** This order defines the requirements and lists the procedures for periodic checks of the EEBS units provided at selected Southwest Region Air Traffic Control Towers (ATCT).
- 2. DISTRIBUTION.** This order is distributed to Branch Level in Airway Facilities (AF) and Air Traffic (AT) Divisions, all AF System Support Centers, System Management Offices, and all ATCT's in the Southwest Region.
- 3. CANCELLATION.** Order SW 3900.27, Maintenance of Emergency Escape Breathing System (EEBS), dated July 2, 1990, is cancelled.
- 4. BACKGROUND.** "Life-Air 10" EEBS units, manufactured by Respiratory Systems, Inc., have been provided to select Southwest Region ATCT's. These units were distributed based on Air Traffic tower cab staffing and need for fire life safety upgrades.
- 5. POLICY.**
  - a.** Air Traffic personnel have been instructed on the operation and use of the units in accordance with the manufacturer's literature provided with each unit. Air Traffic will also perform monthly checks of each unit as outlined below in 6a. The monthly check of these units shall be included in facility equipment check procedures.
  - b.** Airway Facilities will complete and submit warranty information, refill cylinders, and generally maintain the equipment as outlined below in 6b and 6c.
- 6. ACTION.** The following maintenance shall be performed.
  - a. Monthly (AT).**
    - (1) Remove unit from pouch and open air valve momentarily to confirm airflow.
    - (2) Check that the pressure gage pointer is in the green area; if not, notify AF so that the tank can be refilled.
    - (3) Check that the unit and its components are in good condition; notify AF of any deficiencies.
    - (4) Replace unit in pouch per manufacturer's instructions.

**b. Five Years (AF).** Discharge tank and have hydrostatic pressure test performed according to Order 6930.1A, paragraph 81, Fire Prevention and Maintenance of Fire Protection Equipment.

**c. As Required (AF).** Refill tank, and repair or replace broken or defective parts according to manufacturer's recommendations. Replacement part quality shall be equal or better than original.

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