
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1999 No. 173

**Escape and Rescue from Mines
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999**

PART IV

RESCUE TEAM AND CONDUCT OF RESCUE OPERATIONS

Breathing apparatus

26.—(1) A person at a mine shall not wear breathing apparatus unless trained and certified fit to do so in accordance with regulation 16(2)(a).

(2) The owner of every mine shall make effective arrangements to ensure that—

(a) breathing apparatus is not issued for use or worn unless—

(i) it is suitable for its intended purpose; and

(ii) it has been properly maintained and regularly tested by an authorised competent person; and

(b) breathing apparatus is stored in a suitable place.

(3) The manager of every mine shall take effective steps to ensure that there is kept, in a suitable permanent form, a record of all testing, analysis, service and maintenance carried out on the breathing apparatus in pursuance of these Regulations.

(4) Each rescue team member shall carry out a suitable test or examination on receiving breathing apparatus, before going underground and before going beyond any fresh air base and shall inform a rescue officer forthwith if in the opinion of the rescue team member the breathing apparatus is not in full working order.

(5) A rescue officer informed that breathing apparatus is not in full working order under paragraph (4) shall either withdraw the breathing apparatus from service or rectify the fault and satisfy himself that the apparatus is in full working order.