



SAFETY ALERT

Defects found in self-rescuers

INCIDENT

Some SR50 and SR100A self-rescuers are recommended by Austdac to be returned for assessment due to a defect that may compromise performance.

CIRCUMSTANCES

Austdac advise the affected units are SR50 and SR100A self rescuers that are belt worn and are more than five years old (i.e. manufactured in 2011 or earlier). This also applies to belt worn units that have been re-assigned as cached units (cached units which have not been used as belt worn units are not affected).

The manufacturing date can be found on the stainless steel clamping band.

For further details on the defect, please see the attached advisory notice from Austdac.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mine operators should withdraw all affected units from service immediately.

NOTE: Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this Safety Alert, and are informed of its content and recommendations. This Safety Alert should be processed in a systematic manner through the mine's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the mine's notice board.

Issued by

Gary Parker

Chief Inspector of Mines

Appointed pursuant to Work Health & Safety (Mines) Act 2013

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Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Industry or the user's independent advisor.



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CSE SR50 and SR100A Self Rescuers Advisory

In 2016 Austdac began a program to perform an internal inspection on the SR50 and SR100A Self Rescuers due to possible mishandling of the units. During these inspections it was found in a number of cases that the attachment of the breathing bag to the self rescuer may be compromised, leading to a reduction in performance or non-operation of the self rescuer.

CSE are currently investigating the cause of this issue. Initial findings indicate that mishandling, heat and humidity may be a factor in this premature ageing of the collar material.

The breathing bag is attached to the case of the self rescuer via a collar which is clamped to the case. In some cases the plastic collar has degraded leading to holes in the collar. As the self rescuer is designed to be a sealed system, these holes will lead to the degraded performance of the self rescuer.

The SR50 and SR100A Self Rescuers currently affected are those that are belt worn units and are older than 5 years. This also applies to belt worn units that have been re-assigned as cached units. Cached units which have not been used as belt worn units are not affected.

CSE recommend that SR50 and SR100A Self Rescuers which have been used as a belt worn unit and were manufactured in 2011 or earlier be returned to Austdac for a full internal inspection. The manufactured date may be found stamped on the stainless steel clamping band.

It is also recommended that further training on the handling and inspection of the self rescuer be conducted.

If you have any questions regarding this please contact either Mark Goldsworthy;

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or myself, Peter Chan;

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Regards

Peter Chan

Engineering Manager

