



Safety "Hot Topic" Sheet

Thoughts on Smoke



ALL smoke is poisonous. It will kill you either now or later.

Smoke is unburned fuel. Watch out operating under black, dark, fast moving, fuel rich smoke. It will ignite.

Your lungs and respiratory tract have no ratings on how long they will last or keep you safe from smoke and fire gases.

Factors to consider when evaluating smoke:

- Color = Fuel burning
- Velocity = How hot, possible fire location
- Volume = Ventilation needs, amount of fuel burning

Adopt a zero tolerance policy for smoke related exposures and injuries. Smoke inhalation is simply unacceptable.



SCBA will protect you from the poisons. Wear them. Always.



Some fire gases are invisible. After a fire, continue to wear SCBA until air quality is monitored.

It is time to change our culture to believe that we can't breath smoke, we must mask up and that we must look out for each other.

