



Top
10
Reasons to
Choose an
MSA Air Mask



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Rescue Options

The MSA Patented Quick-Fill® System makes every SCBA capable of both **receiving and donating** air to firefighters in need. Although the NFPA standard requires all brands of SCBA to incorporate the RIC connection, only MSA can make **full utilization of the fitting** with the MSA exclusive transfilling capability.

The all new Airframe™ carrier and harness comes standard, with large **side handles** and a central **attachment point** for pulling firefighters to safety in rescue scenarios.

Another unique rescue feature of the Air Mask is its optional **Rescue Belt**. The Air Mask is available with an NFPA compliant **emergency egress system**, integral to the SCBA waist belt, complete with Kevlar line and rappelling hardware. With MSA, **every SCBA is a RIT Pack**.
(Refer to MSA bulletin #0105-92-MC for the facts)



Cross-Contamination Protection

MSA's Ultra Elite® Facepiece is designed with a **one-way check valve** to prevent against cross-contamination of the Firehawk™ MMR. Although regulators are shared among firefighters, harmful pathogens (SARS, hepatitis, flu virus) are kept within each individual-issue facepiece instead of being spread among SCBA users. *(Refer to MSA Bulletin #0105-52-MC for third-party laboratory competitive test results.)*



Light Weight

When comparing “apples to apples,” the MSA Air Mask is one of the lightest SCBA on the market. Due to the use of **modern materials for construction**, a fully equipped Air Mask (consisting of a facepiece, a full 30-minute high-

pressure cylinder, HUD, RIC, carrier and harness assembly) weighs only 23 lbs. In comparison, SCBAs made with metal backplates and less advanced designs can weigh in excess of 25 lbs.

Comfort and Ease of Use

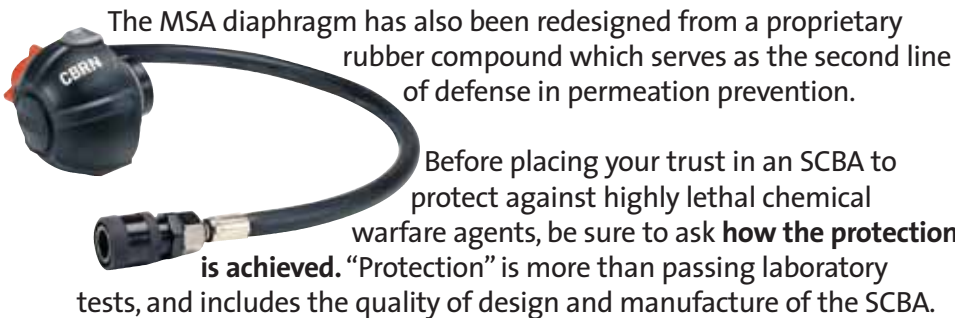
The contours of the Air Mask backplate were designed to provide lumbar support and spine relief for optimal stability and weight distribution. The new Airframe backplate, also offers an optional **swiveling lumbar pad** for freedom of movement during crawling and climbing activities. Combined with the **wide sealing surface** and articulating component housing of the Ultra Elite facepiece, the Air Mask has all the necessary elements to eliminate pressure points and maximize comfort.



For ease of use, the Firehawk MMR is offered in either a Slide-to-Connect (STC) or Push-to-Connect (PTC) version. The STC uses a track on the facepiece, providing an ambient air “stand-by” position until it is time to “push and go” on SCBA air. The PTC gives the user the ability to “attach and go” in any regulator orientation with an easy-to-find funneled attachment point. What’s even better, the regulator **shuts off automatically** when disconnected! No more “fumbling” to stop the air flow. It doesn’t get any easier!

CBRN Positive Protection

Positive protection is provided by MSA's exclusive Tetraplex™ shield, which serves as the first line of defense in preventing chemical warfare agents from any initial contact with the vitally important second-stage diaphragm.



Taking CBRN Protection to another level, MSA has introduced the Ultra Elite CBRN Gas Mask. By offering the Ultra Elite as the common facepiece platform for both the SCBA and Gas Mask applications, MSA has minimized the amount of training required and eliminated redundant fit-testing your department must endure.



Extreme Air Flow

Sure, all SCBA flow greater than 500 liters per minute in a static flow test, but firefighters don't breathe that way. Firefighters breathe dynamically, like the Posi-Chek breathing machine that's designed to test an SCBA.

A single MSA SCBA can provide enough air such that **two NFPA breathing machines**, (breathing simultaneously and connected to one facepiece), **cannot over-breathe the SCBA!** The MSA Air Mask has been put to the ultimate test and passed by sustaining a positive facepiece pressure under the most extreme dynamic flow conditions. That's **zero to 640 LPM and back to zero** in 2 seconds! Airflow performance of the Air Mask is unquestionable!

"Best in Class" Electronics

From the ICM PASS device to the Heads-Up-Display (HUD) and Communications Systems, MSA's electronics were engineered for the Fire Service.

- The **ICM® 2000 Plus** serves as an integrated PASS, providing critical information such as time remaining, cylinder pressure, and battery status, which is logged and can be downloaded to a PC if needed. The ICM is contained within a single enclosure on the gauge line for easy change-out, with **no wires that can become snagged**, damaged, cause radio interference, or create leak paths for water intrusion.



- The **Nightfighter® HUD** (mandatory for NFPA 1981, 2002 edition SCBA) is also wireless and "snag-free" and features a unique **photo sensor** to adjust its brightness automatically to ambient light conditions. As a firefighter's eyes adjust to dark environments, the HUD will adjust with you.

- The **ClearCommand® Communications** family provides a variety of options to meet departments' needs. A facepiece-mounted amplifier features an **internal microphone** for maximum clarity and amplification without feedback. A facepiece-mounted radio-interface version features the same amplifier with radio-connections for over 100 radios. A helmet-mounted radio-interface version "snaps-on" to nearly all fire helmets, and can be plugged into truck-mounted communications systems. The helmet system goes everywhere a firefighter goes!



Electronics is a core expertise of MSA, as demonstrated by many decades of producing high-performance gas detection instrumentation and the most recent design and manufacture of the market-leading Evolution® 5000 TIC. You can be sure MSA electronics are best in class!

Low Cost of Ownership

Just as you wouldn't ride on an aircraft that hasn't been maintained, firefighters shouldn't put their lives in the hands of an SCBA that hasn't had preventative maintenance. Understanding that there is no alternative for preventative



maintenance for life saving equipment, MSA has designed the Air Mask with the fewest possible parts, to minimize cost of ownership. The Firehawk MMR has only 23 parts and requires no special tools. The 1st stage regulator has only 28 parts in comparison to hundreds of parts in other brands.

Even at the reasonably high frequency of use of one cylinder every other day, the cost of ownership of an MSA Firehawk Air Mask is less than \$7 per year. This is a small price to help ensure the reliability of equipment that a firefighter's life depends upon with every use. *(Refer to MSA Bulletin #0105-125-MC for the facts.)*

Best Service In The Industry

Because we manufacture a wide breadth of industry-leading products (CairnsHELMETS®, Evolution 5000 TIC, Air Mask SCBA, Fall Protection, Instrumentation), MSA attracts and retains absolutely the best distribution network in the Fire Service, providing you with the absolutely best service and support.

There are over 2000 MSA-certified Air Mask repair centers (including distributors and fire departments). MSA's Certified Air Mask Repair Education (C.A.R.E.) program makes it easy for any customer to service their own SCBA and stay current with updates. MSA's hassle-free warranty policy encourages distributors to resolve issues "on the spot" and then follow up with our on-line claims program to maximize efficiency.



When you have the benefits of a first class distribution network, an Air Mask lifetime warranty, a CARE program, and a highly reliable SCBA, it doesn't get any better!

Reliability That Your Life Depends On

You don't have to take our word for it. Hundreds of thousands of volunteer and career firefighters (and their families) depend on the reliability of the MSA Air Mask to bring them home safely every day. There is no greater reward for our years of dedication to the Air Mask than earning the trust of firefighters-with their lives.

Listed are just a few of the many Air Mask users who put their trust in MSA.

- Chicago, IL
- Nashville, TN
- Toronto, ON
- Portland, OR
- Cleveland, OH
- Minneapolis, MN
- New Orleans, LA
- Jacksonville, FL
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Detroit, MI
- Kansas City, MO
- Seattle, WA
- Milwaukee, WI
- Tampa, FL
- Tempe, AZ
- Honolulu, HI
- CA Dept of Forestry
- U.S. D.E.A.

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While uses and performance capabilities are described, under no circumstances shall the products be used by untrained or unqualified individuals and not until the product instructions including any warnings or cautions provided have been thoroughly read and understood. Only they contain the complete and detailed information concerning proper use and care of these products.



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