



Mine Safety Appliances Company • P.O. Box 426 • Pittsburgh, PA 15230

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Writers Direct Dial No.

User Notice

First Stage Regulator used on Firehawk™ Air Masks and RescueAire™ II, TransportAire®, and PortAire® Portable Air-Supply Systems

January 24, 2005

Dear User,

Recent results of an internal quality inspection indicated that some Firehawk Air Masks, as well as RescueAire II, TransportAire, and PortAire Portable Air-Supply Systems may have been shipped with a lower torque on the first stage regulator filter plug than our assembly specifications require. Although the factory torque specifications have a margin of safety and no reports of injuries or inadvertent loss of air have been received, MSA recommends that users have their SCBA and portable air-supply systems inspected to ensure that the first stage regulator filter plug is tightened to the proper torque.

This notice applies only to Firehawk Air Masks, RescueAire II, TransportAire, and PortAire Systems having first stage regulators with the letters "W" or "X" as the second digit in the serial number stamped on the regulator. See the attached illustration for additional details. These SCBA and portable air-supply systems were shipped from January 2003 through November 2004.

MSA recommends that users of affected equipment contact their local MSA authorized distributor or an MSA certified CARE technician and arrange for inspection and, if necessary, adjustment of the torque on the first stage regulator filter plug. If preferred, users may perform these adjustments themselves using the attached instructions; however, do not try to tighten these fittings without using the proper tools and following the specified procedure as over-tightening may cause damage to the SCBA or air-supply system.

We regret any inconvenience this situation may cause; however, it is important that we take this preventative measure to address this potential safety concern. If you have any questions, please contact MSA Customer Service at 1-877-MSA-3473.

Very truly yours,

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.
Manager of Product Safety

PPL04044-09

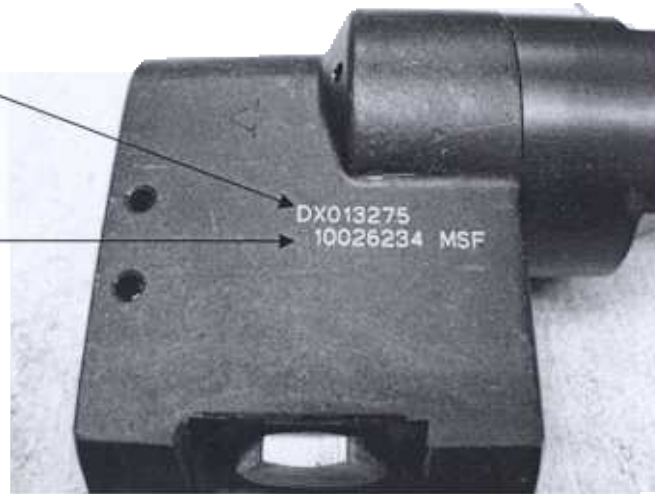
LOCATION: RIDC Industrial Park • 121 Gamma Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15238

First Stage Regulator Serial/Part Number Illustration

Regulators with "W" or "X" as the second digit in the serial number apply to this User Notice.

The regulator part number should be one of the following:

- 488885
- 805067
- 815963
- 816298
- 10026233
- 10026234
- 10032941



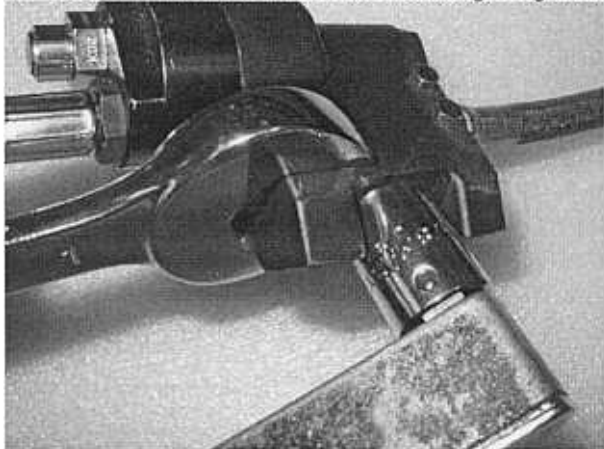
First Stage Regulator Filter Plug Re-Torquing Instructions

Removing the First Stage Regulator

1. Use a 7/16" wrench to remove the two bolts connecting the first stage regulator to the carrier.
2. Set bolts aside for later use.

Tightening the Filter Plug

1. Use a 1" wrench to hold the first stage regulator body.



2. Use a 5/8" socket and torque wrench and tighten the first stage regulator plug to 80 – 100 in.lbs.

Reinstalling the First Stage Regulator (Black Rhino and Vulcan Carriers only)

1. Reassemble the first stage regulator to the carrier using the two bolts.
2. Use a 7/16" wrench to tighten.
3. Use a 7/16" socket and torque wrench and tighten the two bolts to 30 – 40 in.lbs.

Reinstalling the First Stage Regulator (Airframe Carrier only)

1. Apply a drop of Loctite 222 to each of the two bolts.
2. Reassemble the first stage regulator to the carrier using the bolts.
3. Use a 7/16" wrench to tighten the bolts.