

SUBJECT: CARE AND TESTING OF ENCAPSULATED SUITS**SECTION:** 202.16**REVISED:** NOVEMBER 1, 2007**PAGE(S):** 1

PURPOSE

To Provide chemical protective clothing that is expected to perform in a potential contaminated environment.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Reading Fire Department to maintain all chemical protective clothing according to the manufacturer's recommendations

PROCEDURE

All level A suits shall be visually inspected at least 2 times per year.

Level A suits shall undergo a pressure test when new, prior to placing in service, and once a year. The test should conform to the manufacturers recommended practice. If the suit does not pass the test it should be removed from service. The suit may be downgraded to Level B protection but should be obviously marked to that effect.

After suit is used in an incident it should be removed from service and replaced. The spill generator should be charged for replacement. Suits that are exposed to a chemical environment should not be reused.

RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the Special Operations officer to coordinate testing and replacement of chemical protective clothing.

Shift Supervisors are responsible for notifying the Special Operations officer if a suit is used during an incident.