

# LONG-TERM FIELD EVALUATION (LTFE) OF SCSRs FY12 (939ZUMW)

## **Objective**

To evaluate the reliability of Self-Contained Self-Rescuers (SCSRs) deployed in US underground coal mines. This is an ongoing project that provides performance data on Field Deployed SCSRs



## **Applicable Standards**

Activities mandated by 30 CFR 75.1714.14 et seq

## **Key Partners**

USA and International Respirator Manufacturers; MSHA, UMWA, UCOA.

## **Stakeholders**

BCOA  
NMA  
UMWA  
USWA  
SCSR Manufacturers

## **Project Scope**

- Collect a statistically significant sample of SCSR devices
- Test SCSRs collected on ABMS testing equipment
- Report results to mine operators, MSHA and Manufacturers
- Liaison with stakeholders on testing issues.

## **Milestones**

- Improved sampling methodology for the LTFE
- Improved LTFE sample handling and recording
- Identified problem with inspection of field deployed units
- Identified problems with inspection criteria in user instructions
- Identified potential problem with low O<sub>2</sub>
- 2 new SCSR developed and approved
- Correlation testing scheduled for CCER baselines

## **Outputs**

- Draft LTR1 report is in review process as of 3/20/2012
- 3 CPIP have been opened. One model has been removed from production and an improved model submitted for approval in its place
- A major investigation of the reliability of one model of SCSR is currently underway. This is a comprehensive evaluation of the mine workers risk of using that device
- MSHA and NIOSH have modified their position on manually starting dry chemical bed O<sub>2</sub> devices

## **Outcomes**

- Validation that equipment is performing as certified
- Corrective actions by manufacturers to address reported problems
- NPPTL, PRL, and MSHA developed new O<sub>2</sub> protocol

Updated: 5 Apr 2012