PPE Inspection Procedure

New Item or Procedure: Personal Protective Equipment Inspection

Purpose:

➢ To provide direction in performing visual inspections of Personal Protective Equipment in accordance to NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, 2008 ed.

Procedure:

➢ Visual Inspection is defined in Chapter 6.2 of NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting as “routine inspection”.

Coat and Trouser garment shall be inspected for the following:

• Soiling
• Contamination
• Physical damage such as the following: Rips, tears, and cuts; damaged or missing hardware and closure systems; thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, or discoloration of any layer)
• Damaged or missing reflective trim
• Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stiches
• Correct assembly and size compatibility of shell, liner, and drag rescue device (DRD)

Hood shall be inspected for the following:

• Soiling
• Contamination
• Physical damage such as the following: Rips, tears, and cuts; thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, or discoloration of any layer)
• Loss of face opening adjustment
• Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stiches

Helmet shall be inspected for the following:

• Soiling
• Contamination
- Physical damage to the shell such as the following: cracks, crazing, dents, and abrasions; thermal damage to the shell (bubbling, soft spots, warping, discoloration)
- Physical damage to the earflaps such as the following: rips, tears, and cuts; thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting)
- Damaged or missing components of the suspension and retention systems
- Damaged or missing components of the face shield/google system including discoloration, crazing, and scratches limiting visibility
- Damaged or missing reflective trim
- Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stiches

**Gloves** shall be inspected for the following:

- Soiling
- Contamination
- Physical damage such as the following: Rips, tears, and cuts; thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, or discoloration of any layer)
- Shrinkage
- Loss of elasticity or flexibility
- Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stiches

**Footwear** shall be inspected for the following:

- Soiling
- Contamination
- Physical damage such as the following: Rips, tears, and cuts; thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, or discoloration of any layer); exposed or deformed steel toe, midsole, or shank
- Loss of water resistance
- Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stiches

**Drag Rescue Device (DRD)** shall be inspected for the following:

- Installation in garment
- Soiling
- Contamination
- Physical damage such as the following: Rips, tears, and cuts
- Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, or discoloration of any layer)
- Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stiches