

DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS AND ENERGY

No. R. 569

17 May 2002

**REGULATIONS UNDER THE MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY
ACT, 1996 (ACT 29 OF 1996)**

In terms of section 98(1)(b) of the Mine Health and Safety Act, 1996 (Act 29 of 1996), I Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Minister of Minerals and Energy, hereby make the Regulation in the Schedule

The Regulations in the Schedule come into effect on 1 September 2002.



**MS P MLAMBO-NGCUKA
MINISTER OF MINERALS AND ENERGY**

SCHEDULE

CHAPTER 16

SELF-CONTAINED SELF-RESCUERS

16.2 Issuing of Self-Contained Self-Rescuers

Coal Mines

16.2(1) The *employer* of every coal *mine* must ensure that no person goes underground at the *mine* without a body-worn self-contained self-rescuer, which complies with the South African Bureau of Standards specification SABS 1737.

Mines other than Coal Mines

16.2(2) If at any *mine* other than a coal *mine*, the *risk* assessment in terms of section 11 shows that there is a significant *risk* that *employee's* may be exposed to irrespirable atmospheres at any area at the *mine*, the *employer* must ensure that no person goes into such area without a body-worn self-contained self-rescuer, which complies with the South African Bureau of Standards specification SABS 1737.

Sole Allocation of a Self-Contained Self-Rescuer

16.2(3) Any body-worn self-contained self-rescuer supplied to any *employee*, employed in a full time capacity at the *mine*, in terms of sub *regulations* 16.2(1) and 16.2(2), must be allocated to the *employee* for that *employee's* sole use for the duration of the deployment of that self-contained self-rescuer at the *mine* or until that self-contained self-rescuer becomes defective and the *employee* is issued with another self-contained self-rescuer as required by these *regulations*.

16.3 No Defective Self-Contained Self-Rescuer is Issued

Employer to ensure no defective self-contained self-rescuer is issued

16.3(1) The *employer* must ensure that no defective self-contained self-rescuer is issued for use to any *employee* at a *mine*.

16.4 Monitoring Programme

Annual testing of a Self-Contained Self-Rescuer

16.4(1) The *employer* must annually have a representative sample of the self-contained self-rescuers at the *mine* tested by an organisation accredited to do so in terms of the South African National Accreditation System for assessment of the structural integrity and functional performance.

Such representative sample must not be less than 1% of the self-contained self-rescuers at the *mine* and must be representative of the age and deployment of the self-contained self-rescuers.

Record keeping

16.4(2) The *employer* must keep the following information, on self-contained self-rescuers at the *mine*, covering the preceding 24 months: –

- (a) total number and makes of self-contained self-rescuers in service at the *mine*;
- (b) number and make of self-contained self-rescuers purchased by the *mine* in that period;
- (c) number and make of self-contained self-rescuers withdrawn from use by the *mine* in that period;
- (d) the number of shifts worked per day (1, 2 or 3);
- (e) number of self-contained self-rescuers in daily use (average for each month);
- (f) number of *employees* underground (average per shift);
- (g) number of spare self-contained self-rescuers available (average per month);
- (h) a tabulation of the type of defects found;
- (i) number of self-contained self-rescuers repaired/refurbished; and
- (j) number of self-contained self-rescuers tested in terms of *regulation* 16.4(1).

Repeal

The following *regulations* made under the Minerals Act, 1991 (Act 50 of 1991) in force in terms of item 4 of Schedule 4 of the Mine Health and Safety Act, 1996 (Act 29 of 1996) are hereby repealed.

- (a) 24.20.1
- (b) 24.20.2.2(d)
- (c) 24.20.3
- (d) 24.20.5