

Important Notice

This notice is to address the sudden increase in reports of cracks found in the lenses of our SCBA Facepieces. We are distributing this notice to remind all personnel to inspect your SCBA Facepiece as part of your daily check-out, and then before and after each use.

Inspect your SCBA Facepiece as part of your daily check out, and then before and after each use

1. Inspect the Facepiece lens for severe scratches, gouges, cracks, crazing, distortion, melting or any other damage or condition that could impair your vision.
 - a) Pay special attention to inspect the regulator gasket sealing area of the lens for obvious cracks to the lens in this area that will inhibit the ability to connect the regulator. (*Figure 1*)
2. Inspect the lens frame for damage such as cracks or missing parts.
3. Inspect the head harness for damaged, missing or worn parts.
4. Check that the Nosecup is properly seated between the flanges of the voicemitter ducts and over the chin cup.
 - a) Verify that both Nosecup inhalation (**Red**) valves are present and properly installed.

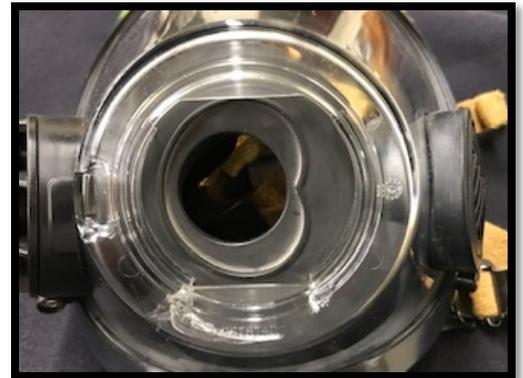


Figure 1 Lens Crack Location

Any facepiece suspect of any of the above conditions that could affect the safe operation of the user **MUST** be removed from service and sent to the SCBA Shop for evaluation and repair. Each station should have a complement of spare facepieces. The SCBA Shop makes every effort to repair facepieces on a “while you wait” basis but that is not always possible.

After consulting with Scott Safety, they have assured us that the facepiece lens has not undergone any changes since it was introduced over 6 years ago and there is no product related defect. The likely root cause of the damage comes from habits related to connecting the facepiece to the regulator at riding positions and the conditions they are exposed to on and exiting apparatus.

While we have numerous Scott AV3000HT facepieces in service today and most are not experiencing the lens condition as explained, we remain committed to the safety of all personnel and draw your attention to regularly inspect your facepiece and recognize that it is not an indestructible part of your protective equipment.