

August 1, 2011

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

To: **All Users of Survivair and Sperian CBRN Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)**

The purpose of this Important Safety Notice is to advise you of a potential safety issue with the interface between the Air Klic in Survivair/Sperian SCBA facepieces and the second stage regulator in all Sperian Warrior and Survivair Panther CBRN-certified SCBAs.

Sperian has discovered that it is possible for a CBRN second stage regulator to be fully inserted into the Air Klic in the facepiece but still have a slight amount of air leakage around the interface of those two components. This leakage primarily occurs when the second stage hose is pulled forward, causing the second stage to move slightly forward at an angle within the Air Klic, breaking the seal between the Air Klic o-ring and the second stage regulator (see Figure 1).



Figure 1

The potential leakage is minimal, amounting to about one minute's worth of air volume using a 30-minute-rated cylinder at a 40 liter per minute breathing rate, **and only if the second stage hose is being constantly pulled forward.** If the hose is never pulled forward or is only pulled forward intermittently, the leakage would be significantly less. Because of the positive pressure

maintained in the facepiece, **the leakage is only outward, preventing the intrusion of contaminants and maintaining the user's protection.**

However, under one specific condition, the user's safety could be compromised. If the First-Breath-On (FBO) mechanism in the second stage regulator is set at the upper end of the acceptable range of activation pressure, it is possible for a user to inhale ambient air into the facepiece at the leakage point described above before the user's inhalation creates enough negative pressure in the second stage to activate the FBO and start air flow from the cylinder. This condition is extremely rare, with only one instance that we know of that has occurred in the field. No users of Survivair/Sperian SCBAs have been injured because of this condition.

Sperian is working on a solution to this issue and will be issuing an update to this Important Safety Notice detailing the actions that will be taken. This update will be in the fourth quarter of 2011. In the meantime, if you are able to inhale ambient air before you are able to activate the FBO in a Sperian or Survivair CBRN SCBA, or if the inhalation effort required to activate the FBO is very high, push the manual safety override button on the front of the second stage regulator (see Figure 2) to manually start the regulator. Cylinder air will then start flowing through the regulator normally.

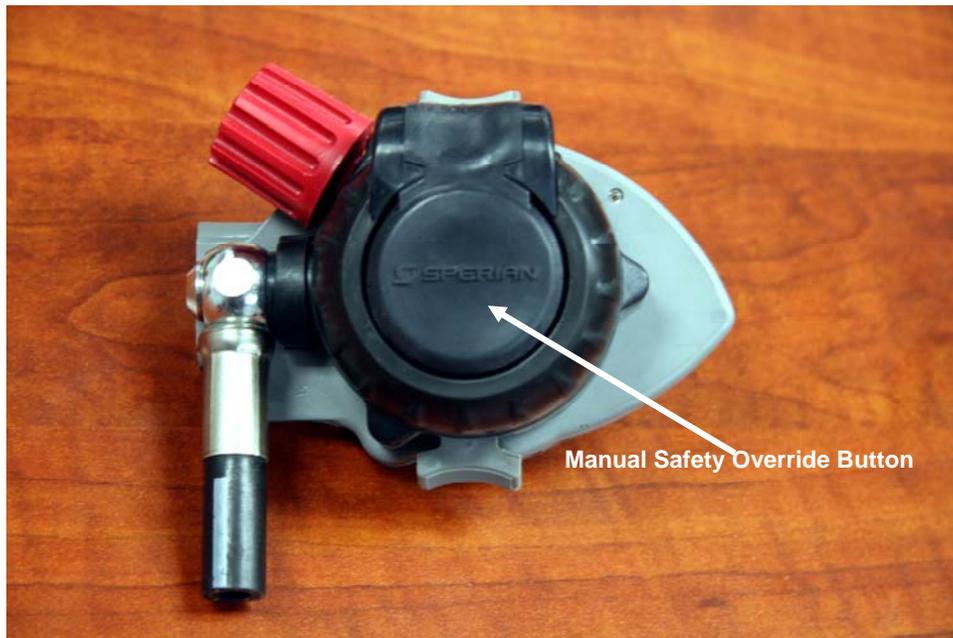


Figure 2



Failure to follow the above instruction in such circumstances could result in serious personal injury or fatality.

Sperian Respiratory Protection, now part of Honeywell, is providing this information in the interest of your safety. We apologize for any inconvenience. All questions should be directed to **Technical Support** at **(800) 394-0410**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven H. Weinstein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Steven H. Weinstein  
Strategic Technical Manager