



February 26, 2010

INFORMATION NOTICE

To: All Users of Survivair® Panther™ and Cougar™ Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and Sperian Warrior™ SCBAs Equipped with the Survivair and Sperian Rapid Intervention Crew/Company Universal Air Connection (RIC UAC) High Pressure Male Coupling

Why you received this notice:

The purpose of this Information Notice is to advise you of a potential problem.

Sperian has received a recall notice from the vendor that supplies the UAC (Universal Air Connection) high pressure male coupling to all SCBA manufacturers. The vendor has requested that we inform our customers of this issue. The Sperian part number, 961483, has been assigned to this UAC coupling when used as a component on all Survivair Panther SCBAs certified as compliant to NFPA 1981, 2002 Edition or Sperian Warrior SCBAs compliant to NFPA 1981, 2007 Edition. It may have also been used on industrial versions of the Survivair Cougar or Puma SCBA, if so configured.

There is a potential issue with the connection of the male coupling to the mating female coupling while the male coupling is pressurized above 1000 psig. Some male couplings do not connect to the mating female couplings while both the male and female couplings are pressurized above 1000 psig. In addition, some couplings have been found to leak when both male and female couplings were pressurized above 2500 psig. The male coupling functions properly at pressures below 1000 psig. When used in the typical application of transfilling air to an empty SCBA cylinder, the male coupling would have little or no pressure, and the part would connect properly and function without issue. However, when connecting the couplings at pressures in excess of 1000 psig, connection to the male coupling may not be possible or there may be audible leakage out of the male half while connected.

What you need to do:

Our coupling supplier has identified four (4) specific date codes that need to be returned for evaluation. These date codes are located on the coupling as shown in **Figure 1**. The date codes are: **06508**, **06608**, **06708**, and **06808**.

Please inspect the UAC coupling on your SCBAs. If you have Sperian Warrior SCBAs, follow the instructions in the attachment to this notice entitled, "How to Inspect the Warrior UAC Coupling Date Code." If you find the date codes as specified above, remove the SCBAs from service immediately and have the UAC coupling replaced by a Sperian-certified technician before the SCBA is put back into service. Contact your local Sperian Respiratory Warranty Service Center for replacement couplings if you employ a Sperian-certified repair technician or have the Warranty Service Center perform the inspection and replacement. Any UAC (Universal Air Coupling) High Pressure Male Coupling, Sperian part number 961483, found to have the date codes listed above will be replaced under warranty regardless of age. Our vendor has rectified this situation, which eliminates the potential for any future problems.



Figure 1

Alternatively, pressurize the UAC coupling, using a Sperian or Survivair RIT Kit. Ensure that the incoming pressure is at least 2500 psig. Verify that the connection between the fill hose and the UAC coupling can be made, and check for audible leaks from the male coupling. If the connection cannot be made, or if leaks are present, remove the SCBAs from service immediately and have the UAC coupling replaced by a Sperian-certified technician before the SCBA is put back into service. Contact your local Sperian Respiratory Warranty Service Center for replacement couplings and replacement screws if you employ a Sperian-certified repair technician or have the Warranty Service Center perform the inspection and replacement. Any UAC (Universal Air Coupling) High Pressure Male Coupling, Sperian part number 961483, found to have the date codes listed above will be replaced under warranty regardless of age.

Complete the attached Fax Form once the inspection has been done, indicating which action you have taken.

Sperian is committed to ensuring safety, dependability and an outstanding user experience for our customers. We are conducting this inspection and replacement in accordance with our company philosophy of delivering the best performing products possible. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your immediate attention to this issue. If you have questions or require additional assistance, we encourage you to speak with a Sperian Respiratory Protection Customer Care representative toll-free at **(800) 821-7236**.



FAX FORM

SPERIAN/SURVIVAIR UAC (Universal Air Connection)

This form is to be used to facilitate the replacement of the UAC (Universal Air Connection) utilized on Sperian/Survivair SCBAs as outlined in the attached Sperian Information Notice. Please fill out the following information. Please print clearly.

Department Name or User Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Must be a physical address; no P.O. Box

Phone Number: () _____

Total number of SCBAs inspected: ____ Total number of UAC couplings to be replaced: ____

Method of UAC replacement (choose one method and follow the directions)

- The inspection was completed and no UAC couplings with the specified date codes were found.**

Please note the number of SCBAs inspected here _____. Also, please fill out the contact information to provide verification that this inspection has been completed. Please fax the completed form to Sperian Respiratory Protection Customer Care at **(800) 201-4407**.

- We have a Certified Technician on site/staff and will perform the UAC replacement ourselves.**

Technician's name: _____ *Certification Date:* _____
Please fax this form to SPERIAN Respiratory Protection Customer Care at **(800) 201-4407**. Upon receipt of this form, we will ship the following items: replacement UAC couplings, a packing slip and an RMA number. After installation of the new UAC couplings and functional testing, sign the packing slip verifying completion. Follow the instructions on the packing slip to return the product. Please write the RMA number on the outside of the shipping carton.

- We will contact our local Warranty Service Center to perform the replacement.**

Choose a Warranty Service Center from the attached list. Fill out the contact information above and fax this form to the Warranty Service Center. A representative from the Warranty Service Center will contact you to explain the method they will use to perform this replacement. Please specify the Sperian Warranty Service Center you have chosen to perform this work.

Warranty Service Center Name: _____ *Location:* _____

How to Inspect the Sperian Warrior UAC Coupling Date Code

1. Examine the wrench flats of the UAC coupling on the Warrior to see if the date code engraved into the wrench flats is readable. The five-digit date code will be engraved on one of the six wrench flats of the coupling. While the wrench flats can be partially hidden by the lower cover or back plate of the Warrior, the date code engraving may still be readable. Use of a flashlight or magnifying glass may help to read the engraved date code.
2. If the date code is not readable on the wrench flats of the UAC coupling, follow the steps below to make the wrench flats viewable.

Note:

Save all components that are removed from the Warrior for use when reassembling the SCBA, except for the screws, which are for one use only.

Note:

It is not necessary to loosen or remove any pneumatic components of the SCBA. Pneumatic components must be handled by a Sperian-certified repair technician. DO NOT loosen or remove any pneumatic components.

- a. Turn the Warrior SCBA over so that the hip pad assembly is accessible and facing up.
- b. Pull the padding of the hip pad down to expose the hip pad swivel plate and its two screws.
- c. Remove the two retaining screws of the hip pad swivel and the swivel plate.
- d. Pull the hip pad assembly away from the aluminum back plate of the SCBA to expose the lower portion of the aluminum back plate.
- e. Locate the nine screws that hold the plastic lower cover in place. Seven screws will have a number "6" stamped next to them in the aluminum back plate. Two additional screws are used for the lower cover—one in the plastic of the battery compartment and one screw with washer in the lower rubber bumper. Remove all nine screws from the aluminum back plate.
- f. Turn the Warrior SCBA over so that the plastic lower cover is accessible and facing up. DO NOT unscrew or remove the CGA handwheel hose from the SCBA. The plastic lower cover will not need to be completely removed to view the UAC coupling wrench flats.
- g. Lift the plastic lower cover up slightly from the aluminum back plate to better expose the wrench flats of the UAC coupling. The lower cover will not be able to be completely removed from the SCBA due to the connected CGA handwheel hose. THIS IS NORMAL. The lower cover needs only to be lifted slightly out of position to expose the wrench flats of the UAC coupling.
- h. Read the engraved date code on the UAC coupling wrench flats. If the date code is not engraved on one of the wrench flats exposed by lifting the lower cover, the lower rubber bumper can be removed to view the wrench flats facing back toward the aluminum back plate.

- i. With the plastic lower cover lifted up from the back plate, pull the lower rubber bumper down off the back plate. A tab of the lower rubber bumper fits under the first stage pressure reducer and may cause some resistance. DO NOT loosen or remove the first stage pressure reducer to remove the lower rubber bumper.
 - j. With the lower rubber bumper removed, the UAC coupling wrench flats that are facing the aluminum back plate can be viewed through openings in the back plate. Read the engraved date code on the UAC coupling wrench flats.
3. To reassemble the Warrior, follow these steps:
- a. Reinstall the lower rubber bumper onto the aluminum back plate. The rubber bumper will slip over the bottom edge of the back plate. To seat the bumper completely, be sure to press the tab of the bumper under the first stage pressure reducer. Use a flat blade screwdriver if necessary to work the tab under the first stage pressure reducer.
 - b. Position the plastic lower cover onto the back plate, making sure that the cover fits correctly over the lower rubber bumper (the bumper must be seated completely for the plastic lower cover to sit correctly).
 - c. With the plastic lower cover in place, turn the Warrior SCBA over so that the aluminum back plate is accessible and facing up. Install new screws to replace the screws removed from the back plate, battery compartment plastic, and lower rubber bumper. Do not reuse the screws that were removed.
 - d. Reposition the hip pad assembly onto the back plate, placing the bar of the hip pad swivel into the rubber stopper of the swivel. Position the hip pad swivel plate and install new screws to replace the two retaining screws removed from the swivel and swivel plate. Do not reuse the screws that were removed.