

Donning and Doffing Procedure: Level “B” Suits and SCBA for Hazardous Materials and Weapons of Mass Destruction Operational Level

Psychomotor Skills Certification Testing

Connecticut Commission on Fire
Prevention and Control
Certification Division



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Level “B” Suit and SCBA Program

This presentation was developed to assist in the training of Hazardous Materials and Weapons of Mass Destruction Operational Level Certification candidates in procedures for Donning and Doffing Level “B” Suits and SCBA.



Objectives

Illustrate proper donning and doffing of Level “B” Suits and SCBA for Hazardous Material and Weapons of Mass Destruction Operational Level appropriate for Psychomotor Skills Certification Testing in the State of Connecticut



Remove watches, jewelry, etc.

- Remove items that impedes movement
- Remove items that may puncture the suit
- Remove items that you don't want decontaminated



Hydrate

- Water Only
- No Carbonation
- No Caffeine
- Suits get warm from the inside
- Ambient temperature
- Sweating



De-Hydrate

- Only necessary if First Responder is going to be involved extended operations
- If it is necessary and without delaying rescue efforts



Medical Surveillance

- Baseline priority
- Heart rate
- Blood pressure
- Respiratory rate
- AHJ medical protocol
- General well-being
- Watch for anxiety
 - Structural Firefighting
Gear is one thing,
CPE is another



Level “B” Suit

- Level “B” Suit
- Boots
- Inner Gloves
- Outer Gloves
- Helmet
- SCBA
- Chem-Tape (Duct Tape)



Remove Your Shoes

- In order for CPE and boots to be worn, it will be necessary to remove shoes
- Socks should remain on



Accountability and Teamwork

- Work together
- Assist in donning
- Overexertion may cause fatigue
- Conserve energy for work in the Hot Zone



Suit on to Waist

- There are many steps involved in doffing
- Comfort of the First Responder is important
- Cumbersome of it is fully donned before other parts of ensemble are prepared



Donning the Boots

- Select boot appropriate for product
- Use an over-sized boot
- Push CPE bootie material to the heel
- Excess material at toes can be uncomfortable





Taping the Boot

- Continuous piece of tape
- At least one circumference around boot
- Complete seal; no gaps between boot and suit





Create a Pull Tab

- Used at Doffing
- At outer end of tape, fold “thumbs width” back over itself
- Tab should be on outside of leg
- Chafing may cause tape to release



Pull tab





Don Inner Gloves

- Most of the work will be with the hands
- Inner gloves are the final means of protection
- Comfort and dexterity are important
- Lap the sleeve over the glove





Don Outer Gloves

- Gloves should be compatible with product
- Sizes vary
- Overlap the sleeve



Make a Tight Seal

- Bend at elbow to create greatest mobility
- One continuous piece of tape
- At least once around the forearm
- Seal the gaps



- DON'T tape wrist tightly or in a constrictive manner
- When it comes time to doff, the glove and sleeve come off as a unit over the wrist and hand





Create a Pull Tab

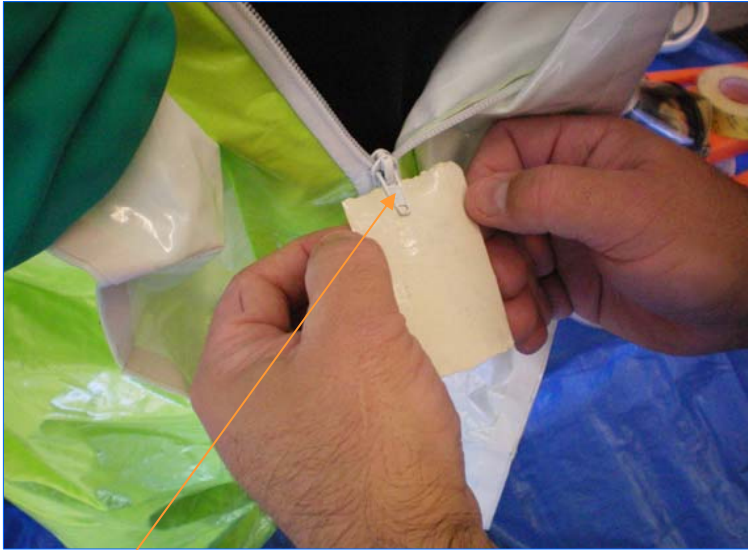
- Used at Doffing
- At outer end of tape fold “thumbs width” tape back over itself
- Tab should be on outside of forearm
- Chafing may cause tape to release



Pull tab



Zipper Extension



Fly

- Fly is too small
- Self-doffing
- Limited dexterity
- Layers of gloves
- Poor visibility
- Fold tape over fly



Zipper Extension





Zip the Suit (almost all the way)

- Zip suit to just below the neck in preparation for donning of SCBA





Assist with Donning of SCBA

- Assisting prevents overexertion
- Prevents suit stress which may cause abrasion or tearing
- Suit is bulking; limited mobility and range of movement





Don SCBA Facepiece

- Suited First Responder may initially be able to don facepiece
- Assistance in tightening straps may be used
- Check for seal
 - Use assistant's hand against facepiece opening



Hood, Zip and Seal

- Don hood
- Zip completely
- Check visibility of First Responder
- Remove adhesive protection from overlap material
- Cover zipper and press adhesive against suit





Taping Facepiece and Hood



- Check visibility
- Three pieces of tape
- Overlap the ends of the tape
- Seal the hood to facepiece
- Create 'thumb tab' for each piece of tape





On Air; Ready to Work

- Don regulator
- Give a “thumbs up” and ready to go
- Grab tools to work in Hot Zone
- Notify IC you are on air and prepared to enter the Hot Zone



Doffing of Level “B” Suit

- First Responder has completed final decon rinse station
- Step into large size plastic trash can liner
- First Responder will doff CPE
- Decon Team Member will assist



First Responder

Decon Team Member

Trash Can Liner



Assisting and Maintaining Air Supply

- First Responder will loosen the straps and waist belt
- Decon Team Member will remove harness from back protecting the regulator and hoseline



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Use the Pull Tab

- Sit
- Use Pull tab
- Remove tape
- Place tape in trash can liner



Pull Tab



Trash Can Liner



Doff Boot

- When possible remove boots by limiting external exposure
- Boot may be so snug a heel-toe release may not work
- Step towards Cold Zone



Remove Tape from Facepiece

- Decon Team Member will indicate where pull tabs are located
- Place tape in trash can liner



Peel Back Overlap

- Pull back carefully
- Adhesive may gloves to stick to material

Overlap Material





Unzip suit

- Use zipper extension
- Pull gently
- Zippers can be difficult to use
- Zipper extension could come loose from the fly

Zipper Extension



Remove Hood; Start to Peel

- Remove hood
- Use gloved hands and remove from shoulders
- It may help to gently shake from the shoulders
- Keep gloves on outside of suit



Gloves on Outside



Pull hand from Sleeve

- Remove hand from glove
- Gently shake hand away from glove into the sleeve
- Gently shake suit from shoulders
- Clean glove on inside to assist with other hand



Inner glove on inside



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Clean, Clean

- Peel Down Like a Banana
- Clean inner gloves
- Clean inside the suit
- Peel from the inside away from torso to lower legs



Inner glove on inside



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Step Toward the Cold Zone

- Peel Level “B” Suit using the gloved hands on the inside of the suit
- Remove legs and feet
- Moving towards the Cold Zone



Continuous Air Flow!



- With the gloved hand loosen the facepiece straps and gently push the facepiece away from the face with activating the donning switch
- Air **MUST** continue to flow away from the routes of entry to the body





Remove the Inner Glove

- Remove the inner glove by rolling or peeling the glove from the wrist to the fingertip



Medical Surveillance

- Step to the medical surveillance



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