

# TOP 10 REASONS

To Choose an AirHawk® II Air Mask



**MSA**  
The Safety Company

# TOP 10 REASONS

## To Choose an AirHawk II Air Mask

### 1 Reliability: your life depends on it

You don't have to take our word for it. MSA is the **world leader in safety equipment** for industrial, construction and first responder applications. Our engineering, quality assurance, and production processes ensure that the design, reliability and performance of your air mask is unsurpassed. **Thousands** of workers and firefighters depend upon the reliability of MSA's air masks to bring them home safely everyday.



### 2 One mask

The Advantage® 4000 Facepiece designed for the AirHawk SCBA is NIOSH-approved, versatile, comfortable, and affordable, adapting to many respiratory applications including supplied-air, air-purifying and PAPR. Simply choose the adapter and components that best fit your needs and easily lock them into place. The Advantage 4000 Facepiece is also available in three sizes, has a nose cup standard, and is offered in either SoftFeel® Rubber or silicone material. Choose rubber or net-style head harness. Its many benefits include more simplified fit tests, cost-savings, and reduced inventory.



MSA's **Push-To-Connect (P-T-C) Adapter** is approved with the AirHawk SCBA and installs easily without special tools. This adapter provides both inhalation check valve and exhalation valves, preventing exhaled air from entering and contaminating the mask-mounted regulator.

### 3 Cross-contamination protection

MSA's Ultra Elite® and Advantage 4000® Facepieces are designed with a **one-way check valve** to prevent cross-contamination of the Firehawk® MMR. Although regulators are often shared among users, harmful pathogens (*SARS, hepatitis, flu virus*) would be kept within each individual-issue facepiece instead of being spread among SCBA users.

*(Refer to MSA Bulletin #0105-52-MC for third-party laboratory competitive test results.)*



### 4 Fire-hardened

The AirHawk II Air Mask shares many of the same fire-hardened components as our industry-leading fire service SCBA. The Firehawk MMR, shoulder harnesses, PASS options, and Ultra Elite Facepiece are currently used on our FireHawk M7 Air Mask which has set the benchmark for NFPA 1981- and 1982-2007 edition.

Listed are just a few of the many air mask users who put their trust in MSA.

- Chicago, IL
- Nashville, TN
- Toronto, ON
- Portland, OR
- Cleveland, OH
- Minneapolis, MN
- New Orleans, LA
- Jacksonville, FL
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Detroit, MI
- Kansas City, MO
- Seattle, WA
- Milwaukee, WI
- Tampa, FL
- Tempe, AZ
- Honolulu, HI
- CA Dept of Forestry
- U.S. D.E.A.
- U.S. Air Force

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## 5 Lightweight

When comparing apples to apples, MSA's air mask is one of the lightest SCBA on the market. A fully-equipped air mask (consisting of a facepiece, a 30-minute high-pressure cylinder, HUD, RIC, carrier and harness assembly) weighs about **20 lbs.** In comparison, SCBA made with metal backplates and less advanced designs can weigh close to 25 lbs.



## 7 Extreme air flow

All SCBA flow is greater than 500 liters per minute in a static flow test, but firefighters don't breathe that way. Firefighters breathe dynamically, similar to the PosiChek3 SCBA Test Bench.

A single MSA air mask can provide enough air so that **two NFPA SCBA test benches** (breathing simultaneously and connected to one facepiece) **cannot over-breathe the SCBA!** Put to this stringent test, the MSA air mask passed by sustaining a positive facepiece pressure under extreme dynamic flow conditions. **That's 0 to 640 lpm and back to 0 in 2 seconds!** Air flow performance of the MSA air mask is superb!

## 6 Comfort and ease of use

Air mask backplate contours are designed to provide lumbar support and spine relief for optimal stability, comfort, and weight distribution. The new backplate also offers an optional **swiveling lumbar pad** for freedom of movement during crawling and climbing activities. Combined with the **wide sealing surface** and articulating component housing of the Ultra Elite Facepiece, this air mask has all the smartly-designed and necessary elements to maximize comfort.

For ease of use, the Firehawk MMR is offered in either Slide-to-Connect (STC) or Push-to-Connect (PTC) versions. The STC rests on a track on the Ultra Elite Facepiece component housing, providing an ambient air stand-by position until it is time to push and go on SCBA air. The PTC gives users the ability to attach and go in any regulator orientation with an easy-to-find funneled attachment point. What's even better, the regulator **shuts off automatically** when disconnected! No more fumbling to stop the air flow. It doesn't get any easier!



## 8 Low cost of ownership

Just as you wouldn't ride on an aircraft that hasn't been properly maintained, workers shouldn't put their lives on the line with an SCBA that hasn't had regular maintenance. Understanding that there is **no alternative** for preventative maintenance of lifesaving equipment, MSA has designed our air mask to have the fewest possible parts, minimizing cost of ownership. The Firehawk MMR has only 23 parts and requires no special tools. The first-stage regulator has only 14 parts, compared to the hundreds of parts used in other brands.



Even at the reasonably high-frequency use of one cylinder every other day, the cost of ownership of an MSA AirHawk SCBA is **less than \$11.00 per year**, a small price to help ensure the reliability of equipment that a user's life depends upon with every use.

## 9 Best service and warranty in the industry

Because MSA manufactures industry-leading products such as fall protection, head, eye and face protection, and gas detectors, MSA attracts and retains the best industrial distribution network, providing the best service and support.

There are over 2000 MSA-certified air mask repair centers (including distributors and fire departments). MSA's Certified Air Mask Repair Education (**C.A.R.E.**) program makes it easy for customers to service their own SCBA and stay current with updates. MSA's **hassle-free warranty policy** encourages distributors to resolve issues on the spot and then follow up with our **on-line claims program** to maximize efficiency.

With the benefits of a first-class distribution network, an air mask **lifetime warranty** with a **42-month electronics protection plan**, the C.A.R.E. program, and a highly reliable SCBA, it doesn't get any better!



## 10 Options

The all-new AirHawk II Air Mask comes standard with large **side handles** and a central **attachment point** for pulling workers to safety in rescue scenarios, and of course, **MSA's Quick-Fill® System** for SCBA-to-SCBA emergency transfilling.

But the unique rescue feature of MSA's air mask is its optional **Rescue Belt**, an NFPA compliant **emergency egress system**, integral to the SCBA waist belt, complete with a 50 ft. Kevlar line and rappelling hardware. With MSA, **every SCBA is a RIT Pack.** (Refer to *MSA bulletin #0105-92-MC for the facts.*)

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While uses and performance capabilities are described, under no circumstances shall the products be used by untrained or unqualified individuals and not until the product instructions including any warnings or cautions provided have been thoroughly read and understood. Only they contain the complete and detailed information concerning proper use and care of these products.



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