

# ROGUE VALLEY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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<b>Developed / Updated By:</b>	Chief Petersen/ Chief Ismaili
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## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish Air Management guidelines to prevent low air emergencies.

## Safety

It is no longer acceptable for firefighters to work in hazardous atmospheres when their SCBA emergency air warning device is sounding. Firefighters must consider a low air alarm sounding as a warning that they are working into their emergency air reserve.

The “**low air alarm**” is now known as the “**emergency air alarm**”.

## Procedures

Prior to entering the hazardous atmosphere crews must check their air levels and plan their work accordingly.

When the first member of any team’s air supply drops to 50% (2250 psi or 1100 psi) the Company Officer/team leader shall radio to Incident Command or Fire Operations that the team is at 50% air.

Command should log the time that a Crew operating in a hazardous atmosphere falls below 50% air supply. Command must monitor the crew closely to ensure they are out of the building before their emergency air alarm activates.

Crews will exit the hazardous atmosphere prior to their emergency air alarm sounding.

Firefighters that begin breathing into the emergency air supply while in the hazardous atmosphere must report their status to Command (UCAN). Command should begin shifting to a firefighter rescue strategy to ensure the crew is safely out of the hazardous atmosphere.