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The 2013 edition of NFPA 1982 instituted a standard PASS alarm sound for all PASS devices. This was aimed at improving firefighter safety and interoperability on the fire ground. Following the release of this new sound pattern the NFPA Committee began hearing comments from firefighters that the new standard alarm sound was harder to hear than older versions.

To answer the demands of the fire service a more effective sound pattern has since been identified and incorporated into a Tentative Interim Amendment. The new universal PASS alarm tone was designed to be more recognizable to the ear, aid in determining the directionality of the sound and override the traditional "din" of the fire ground, ultimately improving the response time to a downed firefighter.

Effective December 21, 2016, all new SCBA shipped from the company's Murrysville, Pa., facility will have the new sound pattern activated. While this TIA does not impact the certification of SCBA units currently in use in the field, MSA believes this new tone pattern to enhance firefighter safety and as such we strongly recommend taking advantage of this update.

To encourage this process, the company is making the new PASS alarm tone available free of charge to current G1 SCBA customers through a simple software update. This update proves yet again the value that the MSA G1 SCBA delivers to its user. Allowing for easy efficient implementation of the latest in standards and technological advancements has allowed the G1 to adapt to meet needs that were never thought possible. Bluetooth connection to Motorola Radios and MSA Portable Instruments, RFID configuration that allows a department to customize the SCBA to meet their SOPs, and of course an Integrated TIC (Thermal Imaging Camera), which provides users situational awareness never seen before. The MSA G1 SCBA works with you today and will work for you far into the future.

To update your MSA G1 SCBA or for more information on NFPA 1982 TIA please visit www.MSAFIRE.com/breathe