

	FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER		
	ISSUED BY: Deputy Chief John J. Caussin Support Services Division	DISTRIBUTION: H	NUMBER: 2006-037
	APPROVED BY: Michael P. Neuhard FIRE CHIEF, FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT		DATE: April 5, 2006

SUBJECT: Issuance of New Helmets and Unit Identifiers
EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately
EXPIRATION DATE: Until inclusion in an SOP

The Fire and Rescue Department has selected the Phenix 1500 TL-2 as the front line firefighting helmet for all members. This is a traditional-look leather fire helmet that was competitively tested and selected by the Protective Clothing Committee.

The purpose of this general order is to formally communicate the procedures for the care and maintenance of the new helmet and for the new identification system that accompanies the helmet.

Care and Maintenance

The care and maintenance of the Phenix Helmet is as follows:

- Clean the outer shell using mild dish soap in warm water and a soft cotton cloth. **DO NOT USE HYDROCARBON SOLVENTS.** The Personal Protective Equipment Center will clean the liner and inner shell.
- No alteration of any Personal Protective Equipment shall be performed without permission from the chair-person of the Protective Equipment Committee. Unauthorized changes will be handled as a progressive disciplinary action. This includes the reshaping of the outer shell or brim.
- The need for size adjustments shall be determined by the user. If the standard sizing adjustments will not accommodate the user, a PPEC representative will provide an additional size adjustment device.

New Identification System

With the move to this new helmet, a significant change to the helmet-mounted identification system will occur. The new system features both front and side identifiers and is color coded to designate the wearer's unit. There are five basic parts to this new identification system. These include the helmet color, the helmet shield color, the front insert (front of helmet), the side inserts and the tetrahedron color.

Follow this link to a full color demonstration of this new system in its entirety:
[Helmet, Shields and Inserts-Colors and Stickers.ppt](#)

- **Helmet Color**

This is the actual color that the helmet is painted.

- Probationary Firefighters= Black
- Firefighters= Black
- Technicians (all)= Black
- Master-Technicians= Black
- Lieutenants= White
- Captain I= White
- Captain II= White
- Battalion Chief= White
- Deputy Chief= White
- Assistant Chief= White
- Fire Chief= White

- **Shield (or frame) Color**

This is the color of the leather shield that is permanently attached to the helmet.

- Probationary Firefighters= Red (with Velcro insert area)
- Firefighters= Black (with Velcro insert area)
- Technicians (all)= Black (with Velcro insert area)
- Master-Technicians= Black (with Velcro insert area)
- Lieutenants= White (with Velcro insert area)
- Captain I= White (with Velcro insert area)
- Captain II= White (with Velcro insert area)
- Battalion Chief= Gold (with Velcro insert area)
- Deputy Chief= Gold
- Assistant Chief= Gold
- Fire Chief= Gold

- **Insert Color**

This is the color of the insert that is placed on the front and sides of the helmet when assigned to a unit. There is both a large rectangular leather insert for temporary mounting on the leather shield and smaller tetrahedron shaped ones for placement on the sides of the helmet. These are color-coded for both the unit that a member is riding as well as their position (riding as the officer or not).

- Engine Companies
 - Officers= White inserts with red numerals
 - Other positions= Red inserts with white numerals
- Truck Companies
 - Officers= White inserts with green numerals
 - Other positions= Red inserts with green numerals
- Rescue Companies
 - Officers= White inserts with black numerals
 - Other positions= Black inserts with white numerals
- EMS Units
 - Officers= White inserts with blue numerals
 - Other positions= Blue inserts with white numerals
 - Ambulances will have only blue inserts (no officer insert)

- Foam Units
 - Officers= White inserts with orange numerals
 - Other positions= Orange inserts with white numerals
- Battalion Chiefs
 - Officers= White inserts with gold numerals
- Auxiliary units or Staff Positions
 - Officers= White inserts with yellow numerals
 - Other positions= Yellow inserts with white numerals
- Tetrahedron Color
 - This is the color of the reflective stickers on the helmet.*
 - Chief Officers= Red-Orange
 - All other ranks= Lime-Yellow

Approved variations of the helmet

- “Accessory” pack items
 - The items included in the accessory pack (Rubber helmet band, disposable flashlight, and door chocks) are one-time issue disposable items. They may be replaced in kind by the user when necessary, but will not be reissued or replaced by the department.
 - These items may be used or worn at the option of the member.
- Approved required stickers
 - US Flag