



BACKPACK & BRASS PUMP MAINTENANCE

Annual maintenance of Firetak Backpacks is recommended to ensure that they are ready to perform when the next fire season rolls around. Many fire service agencies choose to maintain their equipment in the fall. Repair parts, if needed, can be ordered from Firetak – most are stocked at our Winnipeg warehouse. Generally, only cleaning and greasing will be required if maintenance is done annually.

A. Bags and Harness

1. Bags (exterior) and harness can be cleaned with mild soap and water, and a soft brush. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
2. If any dirt has gotten into the bag, remove the hose fitting and flush the bag with running water to wash out the dirt. Any dirt pieces should be small as they would have gone through the inlet screen.
3. Check harness clips for any that need to be replaced.
4. Check bag for leaks. Cuts or punctures can be patched using a Firetak repair kit.
5. Any leak at the hose connection should be checked carefully to ensure that the hose washer is in place and that the adapter fitting is secured in the flange which is heat sealed to the bag. If the adapter is loose, clean, apply a sealant such as “Goop” and tighten. Teflon tape can be used for a temporary fix.

B. Hose

1. Ensure the interior of the hose is free from dirt and debris. Run water through the hose if warranted (it attaches easily to a garden hose).
2. The hose should be free of cuts and cracks.
3. Ensure the washer is in the female fitting that attaches to the bag.
4. Check the yellow quick connect/shut off. It needs to connect securely to the male adapter on the pump.

C. Brass Pump

1. The brass pump warrants the most attention during maintenance.
2. Maintenance may require pliers or a strap wrench, a cleaning cloth, a small pail of water and white marine grease. Additional supplies may include an air supply, a shotgun cleaning kit (12 gauge or larger) and brass cleaner.
3. The attached diagram illustrates the components of the pump and helps to identify any parts that need replacement. Keep a copy of the diagram in front of you when disassembling the pump.
4. Firetak recommends servicing one pump at a time, with the disassembled pump laid out on a work bench in the order in which the parts are removed.
5. Check the yellow male faucet adapter (attached to the pump) to ensure it is not cracked or broken and that it fits securely into the quick connect adapter.

6. Remove the end valve body (10). Check the washer and make sure the poppet valve is clean and functioning properly. Use air or water to clean. You probably do not need to detach the male GHT adapter (11).
7. Unscrew the gland nut body (Detail A) and pull the plunger (6) from the barrel. Clean the inside of the barrel (casing 15) using water and a cloth or with the gun cleaner brush. The end valve body can be reattached at this point to minimize the number of loose components.
8. Remove the nozzle tip (1) and lock nut (2), ensuring that the washer remains in the nozzle tip. Check the integrity of the washer.
9. Unscrew the handle (4) from the plunger. Clean any dirt/debris from the inside of the handle.
10. Remove the "O" ring (3) from the plunger if it pulled out of the handle. When replacing the "O" ring ensure it is positioned so that it is at the threaded end of the handle (inside) when reattached.
11. Slide the gland nut body (Detail A) off of the plunger. Check to be sure the three "O" rings are in place (one on the outside and 2 inside). Apply white marine grease to the inside of this fitting before reassembling.
12. Unscrew Body Valve Tail Assembly (Detail B) from the plunger, clean the interior of the plunger, check the poppet valve in the Tail Assembly and reinsert in the plunger. Be sure to place the spring back on the plunger at the Tail Assembly end. Note: if the interior of the plunger is clean and the poppet valve is clean and functioning, you can skip the removal of this fitting.
13. Reassemble the pump in reverse order. Don't forget the grease!
14. Clean brass parts using regular brass polish.