

STATEMENT FROM NZFS, NZPFU AND UFBA

BA MEDIUM PRESSURE HOSE KINKING

27TH MARCH 2014

This statement is issued by:

- NZFS management
- New Zealand Professional Firefighters Union
- United Fire Brigades Association

Following a number of national notices relating to the kinking in the medium pressure hose of the Draeger PSS5000 BA sets, significant work is taking place to address the current situation.

There are some proposed initial changes to the routing of the hose in the backplate and the stowage of the set in a BA seat which are designed to minimise the risk of damage to the medium pressure hose. These changes were worked through with Draeger on 28th March to ensure that they achieve the desired reduction in risk of damage.


As a result, we will be bringing in the staff trained in on-station BA management and maintenance to instruct them in the proper way to re-route the hoses and to stow the sets in the seats. Draeger will also be in attendance to carry out flow testing on the hose in order to restore confidence in the sets amongst wearers.

There are also discussion taking place with Draeger at a senior level to address the longer term question of the on-going suitability of the medium pressure hose.


In the meantime, we ask BA wearers to continue to check the hoses for any kinking, or any stowage that is likely to cause kinking or damage to the hose, during routine checks on the sets.

Management, the NZPFU and the UFBA understand that you want this situation resolved as quickly as possible, but ask that you understand that any short and longer term solutions need to be worked through thoroughly to ensure that the current issues are fully resolved.

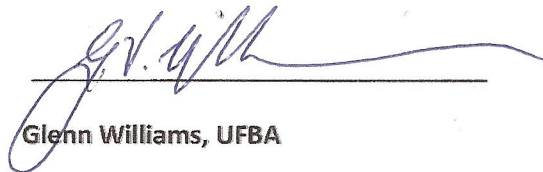
Signed:



Stu Rooney, National Operations Manager



Brent Single, NZPFU



Glenn Williams, UFBA