**PRESS RELEASE**

Compressed air supply provides a lifeline in confined spaces

***10 December, 2013:*** *Confined space work with limited air supply poses a major risk to industrial employees, and the African division of MSA - a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of sophisticated products that protect people’s health and safety - has launched its innovative Airline breathing apparatus to safely overcome this threat.*

The MSA Airline breathing apparatus and four-user filter system, which was launched locally in October 2013, consists of a face piece connected to an air supply via a compressed airline. MSA Africa respiratory products manager **Suraksha Mohun** states that the face piece comes in a positive or constant flow option, with a lung governed demand valve that supplies the exact amount of air required by the user during inhalation.

"The continuous and economical air supply from the MSA Airline range ensures greater manoeuvrability in tight spaces. What's more, the lung governed demand valve is linked to the air source via a change-over valve fixed to the waist belt, thereby preventingthe risk of suffocation from tensile force transmitted to the face piece," she explains.

The MSA Airline range functions independently from the ambient atmosphere, and can be used in any situation where the ambient air is not breathable as a result of contaminants or oxygen deficiency, and where filtering devices do not provide sufficient protection.

Due to its lightweight, robust, compact design and almost maintenance free system, Mohun reveals that the MSA Airline breathing apparatus is ideally suited to a number of applications where a standard and more bulky compressed air breathing apparatus would restrict the user in confined spaces.

"The continual air supply makes the MSA Airline range suitable for long duration work in applications such as; sandblasting, spray painting and repair and maintenance work in industries that include; underground and surface mining, construction, agriculture, shipping and general industry," she adds.

Although the MSA Airline breathing apparatus is handheld, the filter unit can also be mounted to ensure greater ease-of-use, depending on the application. An added benefit is that the anti-static, non-kinking breathing hose is available in numerous lengths. What's more, the locking pressure regulator and unique UltraFlo valve technology ensures that flow rates are never compromised.

For additional peace-of-mind, Mohun indicates that the MSA Airline range also boasts an emergency air supply feature in the event of compressor failure. "Warning signals will also alert the user that the primary air source has been compromised, and that emergency stock is being consumed. This allows the user to safely evacuate the work area and return to a place of safety," she continues.

In addition to offering complete respiratory solutions, Mohun concludes by adding that MSA Africa offers products that complement the compressed Airline range, including; breathing air compressors, short duration respiratory escape devices, to name a few.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit [http://media.ngage.co.za](http://media.ngage.co.za/) and click the MSA Africa link.

**About MSA**
MSA has been the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality safety products since 1914. MSA products may be simple to use and maintain, but they’re also highly-sophisticated devices and protective gear - the result of countless R&D hours, relentless testing, and an unwavering commitment to quality that saves lives and protects thousands of men and women each and every day. Many of MSA's most popular products integrate multiple combinations of electronics, mechanical systems, and advanced materials to ensure that users around the world remain protected in even the most hazardous of situations. MSA's dedication to safety has been the key to its impressive year-over-year growth. In eight of the past ten years, MSA has achieved record growth numbers, with annual revenues of more than US$1 billion.

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