MSA EUROPE

ISSUE 1 / WINTER-SPRING 2003

MSA GALLET helmets only With Callet joining the

from MSA With Gallet joining the MSA family – things changed



Gallet customers now enjoy increased availability and support from MSA's worldwide sales and after-sales service network.

As a new part of the MSA product line, MSA GALLET helmets are now available exclusively through MSA distribution channels. As a result, Gallet customers can immediately benefit from MSA's award-winning sales and after-sales service programme. This applies to all previously purchased helmets as well. Additionally, MSA GALLET helmets can now provide safety all over Europe and abroad.

In May 2002, CGF Gallet became part of MSA and changed its name to MSA GALLET. MSA has strengthened its presence in the European fire-service market by adding a great brand of safety helmets to an already winning product line, which includes personal protective and gas detection equipment.

The French company CGF Gallet was established in 1864 in Paris. In the last 140 years, Gallet has been able to establish itself as the leading European manufacturer of protective helmets for the fire service, law enforcement, aviation and the military.

"We're very excited about bringing these two well-known and long-respected fire service brands – MSA and Gallet – together", said John T. Ryan III, MSA chairman and chief executive officer.

"The creation of MSA GALLET makes us a clear global leader in firefighter head protection."





In Brief

New structure proves successful

MSA Europe's decision last year to decentralise management sales and service structure proves a success. Customers appreciate added flexibility and more personalised support.

Recognising the potential complexities in servicing a highly diversified European client base, MSA Europe made the deci-

sion last year to change its sales and service strategy in favour of a more decentralised and regional structure. The goal was to offer a more direct and rewarding customer service experience.

and Services Office.

Although most customers probably did not notice the organisational changes, many were impressed by the added flexibility, simplified procedures and more personalised service that resulted from the change. Each of the five newly created regions is now managed by a Regional Head Office. Areas outside Europe are supported by the MSA Europe International Export Sales

The new regional offices are listed below. Please refer to the back cover for further address information.

Northern Europe

Serving Ireland, the United Kingdom, Benelux and the Nordic countries.

Phone: +31 [229] 25 03 03

Central Europe

Serving Germany, Austria and Switzerland.
Phone: +49 [30] 68 86-555

Southern Europe

Serving Iberia, France, Italy and the European Mediterranean rim.

Phone: +39 [02] 89 217-1

Eastern Europe

Serving Eastern Europe and the CIS countries (Commonwealth of Independent States). Phone: +49 [30] 68 86-25 99

International Export Sales and Services

Serving countries outside the areas listed above which prefer to buy CE-certified (European standard) products. This includes Australia and Africa.

Phone: +49 [30] 68 86-555

One million

helmets sold





MSA CEO John T. Ryan III accepts the millionth F1 helmet produced by MSA GALLET. He is being given the helmet by Mr Mathieu Tijskens (Managing Director MSA GALLET). The helmet was produced in October 2002.

In Brief

Disposable earplug tests

Should you be concerned?

The test results of disposable earplugs, published in the German magazine ÖKO-TEST, caused considerable public concern. The results of independent studies have shown that at least MSA earplug users can rest easy.

The July 2002 issue of ÖKO-TEST, a German consumer advocacy magazine, published the results of tests conducted on a variety of disposable earplugs. The tests found that a large number of earplugs contained an alarmingly high percentage of some toxic organic compounds.

The MSA FormFit earplug was not included in the test. As customer safety is always top priority at MSA, an independent laboratory study was commissioned. The FormFit earplugs, which are made from polyurethane, were tested for phthalates, Pflame retardants and organotin compounds.

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The tests have yielded the following results: The organotin compounds, which are classified as very toxic, such as dibutyl and tributyl tin compounds, were not detected in the FormFit earplug.

Only a very small quantity of the organophosphorous compound TCPP, used as a flame retardant, was detected and is considered harmless.

In addition, the laboratory found DEHP, a plasticiser or softening agent which is necessary in all plastics and ensures that the earplug remains pliable, functions properly and gives a comfortable, low-pressure fit.

This plasticiser can be found in many everyday objects such as floor coverings, wax tablecloths, artificial leather and even in medical tubes and bags used in hospitals. The concentration detected is considered harmless with respect to the intended use. Polyurethane, which is self-contained, is not hygroscopic (i.e. it does not absorb liquid); as a result, none of its components can be released. The laboratory came to the conclusion that the components of the FormFit earplugs do not pose a risk.

Thus MSA is happy to inform its customers that they can safely continue to use FormFit earplugs and can put their concerns to rest. For further information or to obtain a copy of the laboratory tests, please contact your local MSA representative listed on the back cover of this newsletter.

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News

When help is needed

Cleaning up the Atlantic coast



MSA Spain donates much-needed equipment to the Spanish coastal areas drenched with oil.

As the Prestige tanker oil spill threatened to become the worst in ten years, MSA Spain reacted by sending supplies of protective masks, suits and chemically resistant gloves to the disaster areas.

"After considering how we might help most effectively and constructively, we immediately sent all the equipment we could spare – in line with our corporate commitment: to protect man and the environment", said Angel de la Torre, General Manager MSA Spain.

As the oil disaster reached the coast of France, MSA France also lent a helping hand.

Some weeks after the oil slick had devastated the Atlantic coast of Spain, France found itself facing a similar nightmare.

MSA France quickly responded to the need by sending a large shipment of protective masks, spectacles and chemical-resistant gloves to the disaster areas. "We saw the need to take immediate action and sent our products to the local fire brigades in order to help the cleaning teams and ease their pain by making their 'horrible' work at least safer", said Alain Flachon, Sales Manager MSA France.

The 100-year flood in Germany

Quickly responding to the catastrophe in Eastern Germany, MSA AUER donated 12,000 gloves to help those who were helping others.

To answer the call of the millions of lives affected by the worst German flood in over 100 years, the German division of MSA Europe, MSA AUER, sent 10,000 high-strength working gloves and 2,000 special chemically resistant gloves to the volunteer rescue workers last August.

The gloves were sent to all afflicted regions and especially to areas where life, property or the environment were at greatest risk. The many calls and letters of thanks from individuals and organisations proved that the gloves reached those who needed them.





When you need more than 100%

Pushing the limits on personal protection equipment

As flashover training becomes the norm, the demand for specially designed, high-endurance protective equipment has risen. MSA is leading the way with products developed for extreme use.

Flashover training is increasingly becoming a routine part of modern firefighter training. To withstand the repeated exposure to high temperature and flames which occur in ongoing practice situations, extremely resistant equipment is needed. The AirMaXX eXXtreme SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) has been specially developed for use in tough training conditions. Combining this with the nickelplated MSA GALLET F1 helmet provides optimal protection.

Today's energy-efficient buildings have a nearly airtight construction. In the case of a fire the risk of flashover is very high. To better prepare firefighters for this phenomenon, mobile training containers and flashover trainings in firefighting schools are part of an increasing trend. During these training programmes, an excessive amount of protective equipment typically gets damaged. This is a result of the extreme heat conditions that are often applied to test the limits of man and material.

New standards of protective equipment have been established in recent years, such as EN137 (for SCBAs), EN443 (for helmets) or the German HuPF specification (for protective fire-service clothing). These often set limits for equipment far exceeding those a person using the equipment would be able to endure. Nevertheless, the specifications do not concern themselves with the reusability of equipment after direct exposure to flames or high heat. The equipment is intended to protect the wearer under severe conditions and might have to be replaced afterwards if necessary.

Standard SCBAs certainly provide firefighters with safe and reliable protection. However, under the impact of continuous hard training, investment in maintenance, repair and replacement parts may be necessary. Standard issue equipment is often not cost-effective when used for training.



For training purposes, and especially for trainers themselves, MSA recommends equipment designed specifically to withstand severe operational use, such as AirMaXX eXXtreme. To enhance its durability, this SCBA uses special material that is extremely heat-proof and flameretardant. In addition, newly developed aluminised shielding provides the air tubes with enduring protection. The harness straps are made from non-flammable aramid fibres.

The F1 nickel-plated helmet from MSA GALLET is the ideal addition for optimal protection. The optional nickel plating of the F1 reflects heat radiation and thus helps prevent damage to its outer shell. The additional cost for this equipment is easily recovered through its extended usable lifespan.

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New standards for PPE

Updated German guidelines might also be useful in other countries

The German Fire Safety Association (VFDB) has established new maintenance guidelines for personal protection equipment (PPE).

The new German guidelines (Richtlinie 0804) have gone into effect as of July 2002. MSA AUER, the German MSA division, has adopted these guidelines and will be including the maintenance tables in all appropriate handbooks and user manuals. Fire brigades in other countries may also wish to use these guidelines, but should also confer with their own national regulations.

Time intervals are maximum limits. For heavy-use or high-risk situations, more frequent maintenance is suggested. When in doubt, please contact your local MSA representative. MSA offers full maintenance checks for lung governed demand valves, as well as a repair service, replacement parts and user guides for those preferring to make their own checks.

German maintenance guidelines for full face masks (VFDB Richtlinie o8o4)

Work to be performed	Before use*	After use	6 months	2 years	4 years	6 years
Cleaning and disinfection		•		•		
Visual, function and leak test		•	•	•1		
Exhalation valve disc replacement					•	
Speech diaphragm replacement						•
Check by user (tightness)	•					

¹⁾ For airtight packaged face masks

German maintenance guidelines for self-contained breathing apparatus (VFDB Richtlinie 0804)

Equipment	Work to be done	Before use	After use	6 mos.	2 yrs.	4 yrs.	6 yrs.
	cleaning and disinfection		•		•		
Lung governed demand valve (LGDV)	diaphragm replacement				•2	●3	
	visual, function and leak test		•1	•			
LGDV + hose	full maintenance						•
	cleaning		•	•			
Complete SCBA	visual, function and leak test		•	•			
	inspection by user	•					
SCBA + carrier, without cylinder and LGDV	full maintenance						•
Compressed air cylinder	certification test						•4
Cylinder valve	full maintenance						•

- 1) Visual inspection only after use in aggressive mediums or after extreme missions. Funtion and leak check should always be performed.
- 2) For lung governed demand valves (LGDV) which are not visually inspected after each use.
- 3) For lung governed demand valves (LGDV) which are visually inspected after each use.
- 4) For steel cylinders. For composite cylinders 3 years is recommended at this time.



^{*)} Face pieces which are regularly used should be cleaned and disinfected as often as required. They should be cleaned as soon as possible after each use because perspiration or saliva that dries onto the valves could cause malfunctions. The mask must at least be disinfected before it is used by another person.

Giving the backup team eyes

Wireless video transmission using the thermal imaging camera Evolution

The ability to send video images from thermal imaging cameras (TIC) to a remote receiving station, for viewing by the command personnel, aids strategic decision-making and helps ensure firefighter safety.



Thermal imaging cameras have been used in many applications, such as:

- in the construction industry to determine heat
- in the electric industry to find defective cables
- · in the chemical industry to monitor fluid levels and leakages.

Now this exciting technology has been harnessed for the fire service to make their work easier and, most important, safer.

The newly developed Evolution series of thermal imaging cameras is especially suitable for firefighting situations. Fire-service personnel can use it to orient themselves in thick smoke, fog or dark environments and quickly find people, fire sources and smouldering areas.

A special feature of the camera is its wireless video transmission capability. The ability to send video directly from the point of operation to the mission control centre aids in decision-making and in guaranteeing the safety of the firefighters. The transmission uses specific radio frequencies so that it is not blocked by walls and other obstacles.

Simplified licensing procedure

Normally a permit is required to transmit over radio waves. As the Evolution camera uses radio frequencies to send its pictures, the purchaser of the camera must obtain a permit from their local telecommunications regulatory body for each camera they purchase. To make this complicated procedure easier, MSA is working on a simplified registration process for its customers. Agreements are now being arranged with all European regulatory agencies.

Reserved frequencies have already been established in Germany, Denmark, Finland and Switzerland. In Germany, for example, an MSA customer must simply fill out a form. Other

> documentation will no longer be required, as this information has been supplied by MSA, and all regional offices of the regulatory commission have already been informed. The customer can thus expect to receive his or her permit within days. According to the German regulatory board (RegTP), MSA is at this time the only company with this arrangement.

> This initiative from MSA not only simplifies the registration process for its customers; it also ensures them of complete legal conformity. In addition, the user can be confident of a clean signal quality, as opposed to cameras that use American frequencies where signal disruptions might occur.



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News

ATEX Directives 94/9/EC-99/92/EC

Flammable gas detectors to display a CE mark proving their conformity to the previously applicable Directives. Safety devices



The Directive ATEX 94/9/EC of 23 March 1994 concerning equipment and protective systems* intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres was first published in the EC Gazette No. 100 on 19 April 1994.

The Directive was introduced for a transitional period in March 1996, and will become mandatory from 1 July 2003. During the interim period, standards currently in force concerning electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres remain valid. There are a few important aspects of the Directive 94/9/EC which are worth mentioning:

- The Directive also applies to safety or control devices installed outside hazardous areas which have an explosion protection function (e.g. control units installed in safe areas and connected to remote EX gas detectors installed in potentially explosive areas).
- The Directive follows the "new approach" guidelines of the European Council, which address general requirements, that is, "essential health and safety requirements" relating to the design and construction of equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (Annex II).
- Based on the "new approach" concept, these essential safety requirements (ESR) address the basic criteria to assess the conformity of the equipment, even when there is a lack of specific harmonised norms. This furthers progress in design and the use of innovative products.
- The Directive includes equipment for installation in both surface (Group II) and mine (Group I) environments.
- Criteria have been established to classify devices according to protection level and zone of use.
- The equipment and protection devices that conform to the Directive are to be marked by the symbol of explosion protection (see figure left) and are

to display a CE mark proving their conformity to the previously applicable Directives. Safety devices with a measuring function (gas detectors) must meet a recognised performance standard, i.e. EN 50054–57 (EN 61779-IEC 1779) and EN 50271 for flammable gas detectors to comply with the ESR (Annex II 1.5.5–1.5.6).

 Safety devices (gas detectors) must function independently of any measurement or control devices required for operation (ESR Annex II 1.5.1).

The ATEX Directive 99/92/EC, introduced on 16 December 1999, is concerned with the minimum requirements for improving the safety and health protection of workers potentially at risk from explosive atmospheres. It requires employers to:

- · prevent and provide protection against explosions
- carry out, document and keep up to date an explosion risk assessment (Directive 89/391/EEC)
- classify hazardous areas into zones and provide warning signs in a specified form (Directives 92/58/EEC and ATEX 94/9/EEC)
- satisfy the requirements of Annex II of the Directive, which applies to places classified as hazardous areas. It also applies to equipment installed in non-hazardous areas which are required for the safe operation of equipment installed in hazardous areas. Among the most important are:
 - o training of workers
 - selection of equipment and protective systems on the basis of the categories set out in ATEX 94/9/EC (Annex II, Section B of Directive 99/92/EEC)
 - workplaces used for the first time after 30 June 2003 must comply with the Directive immediately. Existing workplaces must comply with the Directive no later than 30 June 2006.

The introduction of these two ATEX standards should finally harmonise standards throughout the EU to the benefit of both manufacturers and users by improving reliability and reducing the risk of explosion at workplaces.

 $\langle \xi \chi \rangle$

The symbol of explosion protection indicates Directive compliance.

* Equipment is defined as any item which contains or constitutes a potential ignition source. Protective systems are units which are intended to halt incipient explosions immediately and/or to limit the effective range of explosion flames and pressures. They may be integrated into equipment or separately placed for use as independent systems. Gas detectors, whether fixed or portable, are considered typical protective systems (safety devices).



STELLAR Series

Personal monitoring in hazardous areas

The STELLAR Series of gas detection instruments provides early warning of dangerous gases for employees working in areas where there is a risk of explosion or exposure to toxic gas.

Occupations in many industries, trades and the fire service require handling of dangerous, flammable substances and working in potentially explosive environments. It is therefore essential to provide protection for employees and facilities. A system of early warning is needed for personal protection. MSA has developed the STELLAR Series for this purpose, which includes a variety of instruments for detecting and monitoring dangerous gases.

Innovative technology combined with ease of use characterise all of the products from the STELLAR Series. They also meet latest worldwide standards - the product Directive ATEX 100 in Europe, for example. Products include:

- PULSAR (CO or H₂S detector)
- the brand new PULSAR+ (also for CO or H₂S)
- TITAN (combustible gas detector)
- ORION (1-4 component gas detector).

Enhanced function in a smaller footprint

The detectors' sensors – developed and produced in-house by MSA - also represent state-of-theart technology. PULSAR and PULSAR+ use MSApatented "button sensors". These electrochemi-

cal devices contain a solid electrolyte in

a stainless steel housing. This greatly increases mechanical stability while eliminating the possibility of device damage as a result of leaking electrolytic fluids.

The sensors combine with solidstate electronic components to form the dependable basis of every STELLAR Series instrument.

A device for every task

Maintenance and repair teams in particular choose PULSAR as their ideal monitoring instrument, because it is simply activated once at the beginning of use with a push of the test button. After activation, the

PULSAR provides two years of protection without the need for sensor replacement, calibration or battery change. In situations where it is also necessary to measure CO or H₂S, the newest member of the STELLAR Series, the PULSAR+ with its large and easy-to-read display, is the right tool.

For confined space measurement and combustible gas monitoring in a certain area, in a tank or in a special environment, the TITAN provides a high-performance tested combustible gas measurement solution. Features include easy one-button operation, a two-level adjustable alarm, extremely bright LEDs, a large and clear display and an easily dis-

cernible vibration alarm.

Should several or all four dangerous gases need to be checked and their concentrations displayed, then ORION is the detector to use. It can be equipped to measure up to four different gases.

Whether you are searching for leaks or simply demand the best in personal protection, STELLAR Series detectors from MSA are the solution.





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New Products

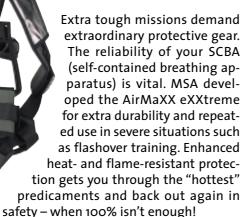
AirMaXX eXXtreme

Survives the toughest missions

MSA has developed an SCBA especially designed for severe-use circumstances

such as flashover training. The unit withstands mul-

tiple exposure to high heat and flame.



AirMaXX eXXtreme's specialised materials have been designed to keep the equipment working repeatedly under the most uncompromising conditions. The harness is made from heavy-duty and non-flammable aramid fibres; while the air lines remain protected under newly developed aluminised shielding. The Air-MaXX eXXtreme exceeds through exceptional longevity and significantly reduced maintenance costs.



- · special heat-proof and flame-retardant com-
- · for repeated extreme training
- non-flammable aramid straps
- · certified according to prEN137 (flame engulf-
- lower TCO (total cost of ownership)
- ergonomic and comfortable



Breaking new ground in portable thermal imaging

The new Evolution 5000 thermal imaging camera is the sturdiest small-format unit available

today. But don't let its small profile fool you. It is packed with the

features you need for those really tough predicaments.



With the Evolution 5000, MSA has once again broke new ground in thermal imaging cameras for the fire service.

The Evolution 5000 is built around a customised, small-format camera, utilising a Vanadium oxide Microbolometer detector. This provides an image and fire ground performance superior to other small-format cameras.

With a 90mm display and weighing in at less than 1.3 kg (with batteries), the Evolution 5000 now brings you the performance you need in a light, compact and tough package.

Like any good piece of work equipment, the

Evolution 5000 is easy to use, with the same single-button operations as the popular Evolution 4000 model. The Evolution 5000 is also the most ergonomic thermal imaging device for the fire service, with the unique double handle system for easy hand-over.

The proven impact bumper system and high-impact protective housing ensures that the unit will perform even in the

rigours of the fire ground.



New Products

miniSCAPE escape respirator

Tiny breathing apparatus gives you those five extra minutes that make all the difference



MSA has developed what is probably the smallest escape respirator on the market today. This convenient device can easily be carried with you in a pocket or on a holt. Should disaster strike the tipy lifes over

pocket or on a belt. Should disaster strike, the tiny lifesaver gives you the extra minutes needed to get to safety.

Using the latest filtering media TabTec® technology, miniSCAPE is a one-time-use escape device with five minutes service time. It is equipped with mouthpiece and nose clip. Small and handy, the miniSCAPE fits into the pocket of an overall or any work clothing. It can also be carried on a belt with the very practical integrated belt clip. In case of emergency, it can be put on very quickly and is immediately operational. The miniSCAPE does not even hamper people wearing goggles or glasses, since it is a mouthpiece device without head harness. It is housed in a rugged, translucent carrying case, to protect it against shocks and ageing.

In case of sudden and unexpected releases of toxic gases or vapours at the workplace, personnel can quickly and safely leave the danger area with the MSA miniSCAPE. The hygienic and convenient plastic case allows easy distribution to different persons, for example visitors or workers. It can also be carried where workers may face permanent risk.

The miniSCAPE protects against numerous toxic organic and inorganic gases or vapours such as benzene, tetrachloroethane, trichloroethylene, hydrogen halides, hydrogen cyanide, hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, ammonia and other dangerous chemicals.



PULSAR+ gas detector

New single-gas detector with added features

The new PULSAR+ Single-Gas Detector just set a new standard for single-gas detection by adding a gas concentration display plus a replaceable sensor and battery to the well-respected PULSAR maintenance-free detector.

The PULSAR+ Single-Gas Detector is reliable, easy to use and durable. With sensor options for CO and $\rm H_2S$ this unit provides industry-leading performance and can stand up to the roughest handling in harsh industrial environments.

Key features start with the innovative sensor technology. MSA's newly designed and patented stainless steel button sensor with solid electrolyte construction contains no liquid, eliminating any possibility for sensor leakage. A new replaceable lithium battery offers sufficient

capacity for at least one year.

A triple alarm system offers audio, visual and optional vibration. A versatile software concept allows you

to enable STEL and TWA alarms and prevents unauthorised calibration access.

The extra large numeric display with backlight informs you clearly of the present gas concentration. User-friendly icons help to identify STEL,TWA and PEAK levels at a glance.

The detector's steel-filled carbon case is RFIresistant and shock proof. It also meets the environmental protection rating IP54 ensuring that it is water- and dust-tight.

For easy one-button calibration or gas response tests, accessories are not needed. The gas-feeding adapter is built in to prevent any misplacement. PULSAR+ comes in several versions, including a special fire-service edition.









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Contacts & Events



Upcoming events

in 2003

May 7-10 Ramp en Bestrijding

Rosmalen, Holland

May 19-24 **ACHEMA**

Frankfurt (Main), Germany

September 24–27 Congres National des Sapeurs Pompiers

Bourg en Bresse, France

October 27-30

Düsseldorf, Germany

November 18-21 Milipol

Paris, France

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Changes are possible without notice.



With more than 110 years of experience in safety solutions MSA Europe – a member of the worldwide MSA group – is the epitome of trust and reliability.

We are more than happy to provide you with detailed information concerning our products and services.

You can fax or mail us this postcard, send us an e-mail, fill out our online form or simply give us a call and we will promptly send you an individually prepared response to your request.

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You can fax or mail us this postcard, send us an e-mail, fill out our online form or simply give us a call and we will promptly send you an individually prepared response to your request.

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