Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section Equipment	**Referral No.** E-O1	**Subject:** High Pressure Air Bag Operation	**Date Issued** 11/02	**Date Revised** 03/08

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for use of High Pressure air bags

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - All officers will ensure that any personnel operating the high-pressure air bags are properly trained.
  - The person operating the high-pressure air bags will do so in a safe manner.

- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of wearing proper safety equipment and operating the high-pressure air bags in a safe manner.

Guidelines:

- All personnel operating high-pressure air bags will do so while wearing proper turnout gear
- All personnel operating high-pressure air bags will be properly trained
- Prior to using high-pressure air bags, it must be determined that the scene is safe for their operation.
  - This includes but is not limited to looking for downed power lines, gas leaks or other hazardous materials.
- The Incident Commander will coordinate the placement of Rescue 1309
- The driver of Rescue 1309 will be responsible for assembling the equipment needed for high-pressure air bag operations
- The vehicle being worked on will be properly stabilized prior to using high-pressure air bags
- Measures must be taken to ensure for the safety of any victims in the vehicle
- The high-pressure air bags will be properly positioned prior to being inflated
  - Care must be used to avoid jagged or hot surfaces that may damage the air bags
- Plywood sheeting should be used to protect against hot or jagged surfaces
- Cribbing is used in conjunction with the air bags when lifting an object
- As the bags are inflated, cribbing shall be placed to assist in supporting the weight of the object and ensure safety should the air bags fail
- **At no time shall anyone place themselves under any object supported solely by air bags**

- The person/s operating the high-pressure air bags must keep a clear line of communication open with other personnel on scene in case of unforeseen problems
- At no time shall the high-pressure air bags be used in a manner they are not designed for
- When using high-pressure air bags, be aware of air bag kick back, shifting of the vehicle or any other sudden unexpected movement
- Any damage or malfunction to the system shall be reported to an officer and a repair slip filled out
- The high-pressure air bags shall be cleaned and checked after each use to ensure they are ready for use
- Air bags shall not be used for stabilization