

Respiratory Protection Information

COMPLIANCE

Respiratory Requirements Standard - OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134

Main points for employers:

- Identify and evaluate respiratory hazards in the workplace.
- Provide a medical evaluation to determine employee's ability to use a respirator.
- Ensure fit testing occurs prior to initial use, whenever a different respirator facepiece is used, and at least annually thereafter.
- Conduct evaluations of the workplace as necessary to ensure proper implementation of the program and consult with employees to ensure proper use.
- Select and provide an appropriate respirator based on the respiratory hazard(s) to which the worker is exposed and workplace and user factors that affect respirator performance and reliability.
- Select a respirator certified by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) which must be used in compliance with the conditions of its certification.

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1020

Records of medical evaluations must be retained and made available.

Go online to www.osha.gov for complete information.

PARTICULATE FILTER TYPES

Filters will be rated as N95, N100, P100, etc. The number 95, 99, or 100 indicates the filter efficiency percentage rate.

N Series

- Used in environments free of oil aerosols.

R Series

- Resistant to oil mist. Use is restricted to one 8-hour work shift.

P Series

- Oil resistant and no use restrictions.

RESPIRATOR TYPES

Air-Purifying Respirator:

Half or full facepiece masks, air-purifying filter, cartridge, or canister that removes specific air contaminants by passing ambient air through the air-purifying element.

Escape-Only Respirator:

Designed for use only during escape from hazardous atmospheres.

Escape Gas Mask:

Consists of a half-mask facepiece or mouthpiece, a canister, and associated connections, and is designed for use during escape-only from hazardous atmospheres.

Disposable Respirators:

Discarded after the end of recommended period of use, after excessive resistance or physical damage, or when odor breakthrough or other warning indicators render the respirator unsuitable for further use.

Powered Air-Purifying Respirator (PAPR):

Continuous-filtered airflow device equipped with a facepiece, hood, or helmet, breathing tube, canister, cartridge, filter, canister with filter, or cartridge with filter, and a blower.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA):

An atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the breathing air source is designed to be carried by the user.

Supplied-Air Respirator (SAR) or Airline Respirator:

An atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the source of breathing air is either filtered compressed air or ambient air pump when placed in clean air environment.