

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM

29 CFR 1910.94
29 CFR 1910.134
29 CFR 1910.1001

Respiratory Protection



- Prevent exposure to atmospheric contamination
- Whenever effective engineering controls aren't feasible, use appropriate respirators

The Respiratory Protection Standard addresses

- Respirator selection procedures
- Medical evaluations
- Fit testing procedures
- Respirator use procedures
- Maintenance procedures
- Breathing air quality and uses
- Training requirements
- Procedures for regularly evaluating the effectiveness of the program

Respiratory Protection Standard

- The Respiratory Protection Standard applies to work in the plant or on the job site where the use of respirators is either required or permitted.



Types of Respirators

- Air-purifying respirators have an air-purifying filter, cartridge, or canister that removes specific air contaminants by passing ambient through the air-purifying element.
- Atmosphere-supplying respirators supply the user with breathing air from a source independent of the ambient atmosphere. This includes supplied-air respirators (SARs) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) units.

Air-purifying Respirator

- Air-purifying respirators use a canister or cartridge which contains a filter, sorbent, catalyst, or a combination of these, to remove specific contaminants from the air passed through the container.



Atmosphere-supplying respirator

- SCBAs or SARs are used when the ambient air is oxygen deficient or is believed to be heavily contaminated.



General Requirements

- Employees are required to use respiratory protection whenever necessary to protect employee health as outlined in this standard.
- Voluntary use of respiratory protection by employees is allowed provided the requirements of this standard are met, including the medical qualification requirement.
- If you perform tasks where respirators are required, you will receive additional specific training

Respirator Selection

- In selecting the appropriate respirator it is necessary to evaluate respiratory hazards to which the worker will be exposed.
- The evaluation of respiratory hazards include the concentration, chemical state and physical form of the contaminant.

Medical Evaluation

- All employees that are required to wear a respirator are required to complete an OSHA-approved medical evaluation questionnaire to determine if they are able to wear a respirator.
- The medical evaluation will be performed by a physician or other licensed health care professional selected by the company using an approved medical questionnaire or examination.

Medical Evaluation

- The company will provide follow-up medical examinations for employees whose initial medical evaluation do not qualify them for respirator use.
- A written recommendation will be obtained from the physician regarding the employee's ability to use a respirator.
- Additional medical evaluations will be provided should any medical problems arise from respirator use.

Fit Testing

- All employees required to wear a respirator, and that are deemed medically qualified to wear a respirator, will be fit tested with the actual respirator they will be using prior to being allowed to use a tight fitting respirator.
- The fit test will be administered using an OSHA-approved protocol and will be conducted annually.

Use of Respirators

- Employees with any facial hair or other conditions that interfere with the face-to-facepiece seal or valve function shall not be permitted to use respirators. If you are an employee required to wear a respirator, you will be required to be facial hair free.
- An OSHA-approved user seal check must be performed each time the respirator is used.
- The effectiveness of the respirator must be maintained at all times.

Maintenance and Care of Respirators



- Respirators shall be cleaned, inspected and disinfected after each use or more often if necessary.
- Respirators shall be cleaned before each use.

Employee Training

- Employees shall be trained prior to using a respirator.
- Employees shall be re-trained at least annually on the proper use of respirators.



Questions?