

Department of LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

## N95 Particulate Respirator Training

### Filtering Facepiece Respirators



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## N95 Particulate Respirator Training

### Why Is This Training Required?

Training is required by WISHA for anyone who wears a respirator.

We also are providing this training so you will know how to protect your health.

If you don't know how to use a respirator properly, you can get a false sense of protection.



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## N95 Particulate Respirator Training

### Respirator Program Administrator

Our respirator administrator is **T. J. Bishop**.

This person is responsible for overseeing our respirator program.

This person has training on respirators.

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## N95 Particulate Respirator Use

Where We Require Filtering Facepieces

Filtering facepieces are required for:

***Patient care involving any respiratory and / or gastrointestinal complaints.***

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## N95 Particulate Respirator Use

We provide filtering facepieces (masks) for protection against the following kinds of aerosolized particles:

***Influenza and Tuberculosis***

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## How Filtering Facepieces Work

How Do They Protect You?

When used properly, they prevent the inhalation of aerosolized particles in the air and protects the lungs.



When you inhale, air is pulled through the mask and particles are captured on the outside of the mask.



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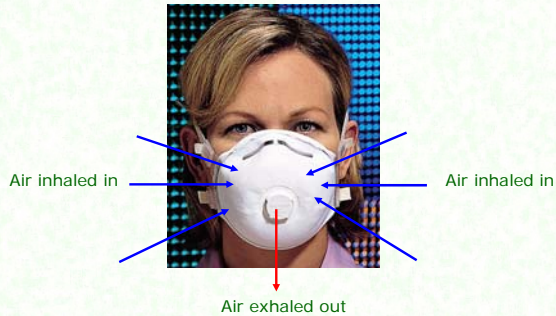
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## How Filtering Facepieces Work



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## Using Filtering Facepieces

### Limits of masks

Masks will leak if they don't fit your face properly.

Masks don't filter out chemical vapors.

Masks are not adequate for heavy amounts of particles.

Masks may not be suitable for highly toxic dusts.



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## Mask Protection Factor

### How much protection does a mask give?

Masks only provide protection to levels 10 times above the permissible exposure limit (PEL).



#### Example

Wood dust permissible limit – 5 mg/cu. meter  $\longleftrightarrow$  Mask protects up to 50 mg/cu. meter

mg/cu. meter = milligrams per cubic meter

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## NIOSH-Approved Masks

Masks come in variety of styles and brands.



Not NIOSH-approved

Not all masks provide adequate protection for workplace dust.

Only NIOSH-approved masks can be used for protection against levels exceeding the PEL.



NIOSH-approved

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## Types of Masks

Some masks are more protective than others

N95/R95/P95 masks filter out 95% of dust particles

N99/R95/P99 masks filter out 99% of dust particles

N100/R100/P100 masks filter out 99.7% of dust particles

N99 or N100 masks are recommended for very fine dust or dangerous dusts such as asbestos or silica.

**\*We use N95 masks\***

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## Where Masks Can't Be Used

Masks will not provide adequate protection in the following situations:

- ✓ Exposure to chemical gases or vapors
- ✓ Dust levels more than 10 times the permissible exposure limit (PEL)
- ✓ Oxygen deficiency



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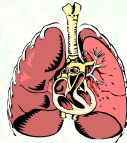
## Respirators and Physical Fitness

### Medical Evaluations

Medical evaluations are required for anyone wearing respirators.

Breathing through a respirator is work for the body.

Respirators can be hazardous to people with heart or lung problems.



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## Respirator and Physical Fitness

### Medical Questionnaire

The first step of a medical evaluation is a confidential medical questionnaire.

A healthcare provider decides if you need a medical exam.

Results are only used to determine if you are fit to wear a respirator.



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## Respirator Fit

### Masks Must Fit Properly

Masks must fit properly to prevent leaks around the edges.

Fit-testing must be done before first wearing a mask.

Beards are ***not allowed*** when wearing a mask because you cannot create a seal.



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## Respirator Fit

### Fit-testing

In fit-testing, you first try on a mask for general comfort and fit.

After a comfortable respirator is selected, we conduct the actual fit-test.

The method we use for fit-testing is as follows: **Qualitative Bitrex or Saccharin Sensitivity**



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## Replacing Masks

### **Replace masks after every call!**

Masks cannot be cleaned or repaired if soiled or damaged.

Replace mask if breathing becomes difficult, if they are damaged or soiled on the inside.

Dispose of masks at the end of the call.



Torn mask

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## Respirator Problems

### When it Smells Bad or You Feel Sick

If you notice an odor, find dust inside the mask, feel ill, or you think your respirator leaks, notify your officer.

Leave the area if you know your mask is leaking.



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