

TOOL BOX TALK - USE AND CARE OF RESPIRATORS

Respirator Use

Respirator users should inspect, test, and fit-check their respirator each time they put it on. They shall use the appropriate procedures for the type of respirator they are wearing, as instructed in the Respiratory Protection training.

Respirator users should inspect their respirator and test alarms (SCBA) before each use.

Respirator users should conduct a successful fit check of any tight-fitting respirator before each use.

Personnel required to wear a respirator shall only use respirator listed on their Fit Test Card including the type, manufacturer, model and size.

No modifications such as decorating or painting can be made to any respirator.

If a respirator user experiences physical symptoms such as difficulty in breathing, dizziness, nausea etc., they shall immediately leave the potentially hazardous atmosphere and notify their supervisor.

Supervisors shall inform EHS of any changes in materials, process or environmental conditions where respirators are required that could potentially increase either inhalation hazard or potential stress of respirator use.

If spectacles, goggles, a face shield, or a welding helmet must be worn with a respirator, it shall be worn in a manner that won't interfere with the face-to-facepiece seal.

Disposable respirators shall not be shared.

Disposable respirators shall not be used for more than one shift.

Cartridges shall be changed out at the frequency established during the hazard assessment, an end-of-service life indicator is activated or chemical warning properties, such as smell or taste indicate breakthrough. In the absence of a specific change out schedule, cartridges shall be changed at the end of each shift requiring respirator use.

Remove any damaged respirators from the work area and mark them as not for use or damaged.

Use of SCBA for emergency response requires written emergency procedures reviewed and approved by EHS. These procedures shall include procedures for the use, maintenance and care of emergency respiratory equipment.