

Number: ISPM-17	Major Rev: 009
Title: Respiratory Protection	Minor Rev: 005 Page: 10 of 21

3.4 Types of Respirators

3.4.1 Air-Purifying Respirators

NOTE: The use of a disposable dust respirator is on a voluntary basis and completion of attachment 7.2 (Non-radiological Respirator Authorization) is not required. Supervisor is responsible for briefing worker(s) who will use the disposable dust respirator (mask) by using attachment 7.4 – Advisory Information For Employees Who Voluntarily Use Respirators. Dust masks are specifically prohibited in Regulatory Guide 8.7 for protection from radiological hazards. Disposable N95 particulate respirators for use in accordance with this ISPM and PPM ABN-ASH are available from Supply Chain Services. See Catalog ID 39584.

- a. Disposable Dust Mask, consists of a face-piece of fibrous-filtering medium.
 - 1) Advantages
 - Does not require respirator fit or special medical clearance.
 - It is disposable.
 - 2) Disadvantages
 - Its use is limited to protection against nonvolatile particulates only.
 - Cannot be used in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere.
- b. Half-mask Face-piece Negative-Pressure Respirator, depending on the cartridge used, the respirator can provide protection against inhalation of dusts, fumes, mists, gases and vapors, and combinations of particulate and gaseous matter.
 - 1) Advantages
 - It allows excellent freedom of movement, low breathing resistance, and long service life.
 - It is easy to don and remove.
 - It requires no other supporting equipment and minimizes setup time requirements.
 - 2) Disadvantages
 - The negative pressure inside the face-piece during inhalation increases the likelihood of leakage. **THIS MAKES ENSURING A PROPER FIT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.**
 - Its particulate protection factor is relatively low (10), and its vapor/gas protection factor may be limited by the characteristics of the cartridges.

Number: ISPM-17	Major Rev: 009
Title: Respiratory Protection	Minor Rev: 005 Page: 21 of 21

ADVISORY INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES WHO VOLUNTARILY USE RESPIRATORS

Respirators protect against airborne hazards when properly selected and used. Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) recommends voluntary use of respirators when exposure to substances is below DOSH permissible exposure limits (PELs) because respirators can provide you can additional level of comfort and protection.

If you choose to voluntarily use a respirator (whether it is provided by you or your employer) be aware that respirators can create hazards for you, the user. You can avoid these hazards if you know how to use your respirator properly AND how to keep it clean. Take these steps:

- **READ AND FOLLOW** all instructions provided by the manufacturer about use, maintenance (cleaning and care), and warnings regarding the respirator's limitations.
- **CHOOSE** respirators that have been certified for use to protect against the substance of concern. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) certifies respirators. If a respirator is not certified by NIOSH, you have no guarantee that it meets minimum design and performance standards for workplace use.
- NIOSH approval label will appear on or in the respirator packaging. It will tell you what protection the respirator provides.
- **KEEP TRACK** of your respirator so you do not mistakenly use someone else's.
- **DO NOT WEAR** your respirator into atmospheres containing hazards that your respirator is not designed to protect against, or situations where respirator use is required. For example, a respirator designed to filter dust particles will not protect you against solvent vapor, smoke or oxygen deficiency.

END