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Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
National Institute for Occupational
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1095 Willowdale Road
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February 25, 2002

RESPIRATOR USERS NOTICE

SUBJECT: Withdrawal of Aearo Company's Full Facepiece Respirators with the R59A Mercury Vapor/Chlorine Cartridge

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) wishes to inform users that effective February 25, 2002, the Aero Company is voluntarily withdrawing the following approval numbers: TC-23C-1344, TC-84A-2842, TC-84A-1615, TC-84A-1633, TC-23C-1032, TC-84A-2835, TC-84A-1621, and TC-84A-1639. These approvals represent the OMNI STAR and AO 7 STAR respirator line with facepiece part numbers 50375, 50376, 50377, 50378, 52000, and 53000 and include the R59A Mercury Vapor/Chlorine Cartridge, N9510, N9500R/N9510 and R9500R combination cartridges. Consequently, the fore mentioned TC numbers will be deleted from the NIOSH Certified Equipment List as no longer approved.

The reason for this withdrawal is that the respirator user may not be able to see the end-of-service life indicator (ESLI) on the cartridge while wearing the full facepieces identified above.

Please note that this does not affect the half mask respirator approvals using the above mentioned cartridge and filter combinations.

Users of these respirators who have any questions concerning this issue should contact the Aearo Company directly at 1-800-444-4774 or at their website (<http://www.aearo.com>).

Questions may also be directed to the Respirator Branch of NIOSH by calling 304-285-5907.

Sincerely yours,

Timothy R. Metzler
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Richard W. Metzler
Acting Director
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