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Subject: NIOSH Respirator Certification

RESPIRATOR USERS NOTICE

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The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) certifies respiratory protection equipment under provisions of Title 42, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 84 (42 CFR 84).

Manufacturers submit respiratory protection devices to NIOSH and NIOSH will certify only those respirators or combination of respirators that meet the minimum requirements set forth in the regulation. The issuance of the NIOSH Approval Certificate to the manufacturer licenses the respirator manufacturer¹ to use the NIOSH Approval Label and obligates that manufacturer to "maintain approved quality control sampling schedule and acceptable quality level for each characteristic tested..." [42 CFR 84.33(f)].

NIOSH only issues certificates of approval for specific and complete respirator assemblies to the manufacturer. Parts that are approved for use on one respirator may not be approved for use on a similar respirator.

Manufacturers communicate the NIOSH approvals and the approved configurations to the user community and other affected parties through the NIOSH Approval Label, a document that is reviewed as part of the respirator approval process. NIOSH requires license holders to supply this NIOSH Approval Label to the users as part of the complete respirator assembly and packaging, along with User Instructions and other user-relevant information.

NIOSH publishes a NIOSH Certified Equipment List on the NIOSH, National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) website; but this list does not serve as the official listing of NIOSH-approved respirators.

NIOSH does not attest to the accuracy or completeness of this list for legal purposes as the 42 CFR 84 regulations do not mandate the maintenance or update frequency of this list. A complete listing of the approved configuration for a respirator is also available from the manufacturer of the respirator.

¹ - For the purposes of this notice, the term "respirator manufacturer" means the individual, partnership, company, corporation, association or other organization that holds the NIOSH-issued Certificate of Approval for a respirator.