

Combination Respirator Unit (CRU) FY13 (927PP18_CRU)

Objective Develop new performance requirements for the CRU and promulgate them as regulations into Title 42 CFR Part 84 as Subpart M



Applicable standards

- Title 42 CFR Part 84
- NFPA 1981 and NFPA Non-structural FF SCBA/SAR

Key Partners

- Respirator manufacturers
- Regulatory agencies
- User groups
- OSHA
- U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

Stakeholders

- Respirator users
- Respirator manufacturers
- Enforcement agencies

Project Scope

- Develop performance standards, Standard Test Procedures (STP), Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and acquire state-of-the-art test equipment and test facilities to support NIOSH-certification of CRU

Milestones FY13

- Evaluate present technology
- Propose new standards
 - Include CBRN Protection (Optional)
 - Include Fire Resistant Protection (Optional)
 - Eliminate obsolete performance requirements/designs
 - Incorporate new test technology
 - Evaluate feasibility of incorporating sensor technology in CRU to switch between air-supplied and air-purifying modes

Output

- Update obsolete requirements such as (42CFR84.63(b))
- Update or add STP and SOPs for testing current, new, CBRN, and Fire Resistant performance requirements
- Allow for flexibility for greater variety of CRU designs to be certified
- Certify CBRN CRU with optional high heat and flame resistance properties
- Availability of CRU use in CBRN and high radiant heat and environments
- Allow for CRU use in both IDLH and Non-IDLH atmospheres
- Allow responders and workers to customize their respiratory protection needs so they can better perform their primary duties
- Final rule to be stated in Title 42 CFR Part 84, Subpart M

Outcomes

- Improve CRU performance and safety for traditional users such as the fire service, industrial workers and for potential new users such as the military, law enforcement and other first responders

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