Technical Data Bulletin

#150, September, 2001 — Reusable Respirators

Issue Date 11/01/01

Inspection, Cleaning and Storage Procedures for 3M Reusable Respirators

Inspection

3M™ 6000 and 7000 Series Respirators must be inspected before each use to ensure good operating condition. The facepiece must be repaired or replaced if there are damaged or defective parts. The following inspection procedure is suggested:

1. Check facepiece for cracks, tears and dirt. Be certain facepiece, especially faceseal area, is not distorted.

2. Examine inhalation valves for signs of distortion, cracking or tearing.

3. Make sure that head straps are intact and have good elasticity.

4. Examine all plastic parts for signs of cracking or fatiguing. Make sure filter gaskets or seal areas are in good condition.

5. Remove exhalation valve cover and examine exhalation valve and valve seat for signs of dirt, distortion, cracking or tearing. Replace exhalation valve cover.

6. Inspect lens of full facepiece for any damage that may impair respirator performance or vision.

Cleaning and Storage

Cleaning is recommended after each use. 3M™ Respirator Cleaning Wipes 504 may be used as an interim method in the cleaning schedule for individually assigned respirators, but they must not be the only method in place. During fit-testing, wipes may also be used between employees being tested. However, these respirators must be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day, using procedures in appendix B-2 of 29 CFR 1910.134.

⚠ WARNING

Do not clean with solvents. Cleaning with solvents may degrade some respirator components and reduce respirator effectiveness. Inspect all respirator components before each use to ensure good operating condition. Failure to do so may result in sickness or death.

1. Remove cartridges and filters.

2. Clean facepiece (excluding filters and cartridges) by immersing in warm cleaning solution, water temperature not to exceed 120º F (49º C), and scrub with soft brush until clean. Add neutral detergent if necessary. Do not use cleaners containing lanolin or other oils.

3. Disinfect facepiece by soaking in a solution of quaternary ammonia disinfectant or sodium hypochlorite (1 oz [30 ML] household bleach in 2 gallons [7.5 L] of water), or other disinfectant.

4. Rinse in fresh, warm water and air dry in noncontaminated atmosphere.

5. Respirator components must be inspected prior to each use. A respirator with any damaged or deteriorated components must be repaired or discarded.

6. The cleaned respirator should be stored away from contaminated areas when not in use.

NOTE: The above information is also outlined in the users instructions. Additionally, see specific product user instructions packaged with each respirator facepiece for additional information.

3M Occupational Health and Environmental Safety Division
3M Center, Building 235-2W-70
St. Paul, MN 55144-1000

For more Information:

In the U.S., contact:

Technical Assistance
1-800-243-4630

Sales Assistance/Local Distributor
1-800-328-1667

Fax On Demand
1-800-646-1655

Internet
www.3M.com/occsafety

E-mail
occsafety@mmm.com

For other 3M products
1-888-3M HELPS

In Canada, contact:
3M Canada Company, OH&ESD
P.O. Box 5757
London, Ontario N6A 4T1

Technical Assistance (Canada only)
1-800-267-4414

Sales Assistance
1-800-265-1840, ext. 6137

Internet
www.3M.com/CA/occsafety

3M Canada E-mail
ohes@ca.mmm.com

Technical Assistance In Mexico
01-800-712-0646

Technical Assistance In Brazil
0800-550705

For all other OUS locations:
1-651-732-6530