

OSHA Respirator Training requirements as they pertain to the work conditions presented during the employment at IN-CAA

- Why you need to use the respirator;

Respirator regardless of type, brand, or style protect workers from air borne contaminants. These contaminants encounter on job sites or training consist of:

Particle dust from items such as cellulose insulation, fiberglass insulation, mold spores, dry fecal particles, asbestos containing material, and other air borne biological particles such as bacteria and viruses.

Chemical mist or vapors from refrigeration tanks, brazing fumes, spray foam off gassing, cleaning solvents, and spray adhesive

- What the respirator can and cannot do to protect you;

A respirator of any type brand or style will not protect you if not worn correctly, fit tested, and user seal checked. Respirators will also not protect you from atmospheres that are oxygen deficient or contain carbon monoxide. These hazards must be identified by utilizing a testing device such as a four gas analyzer worn by employees that monitors the atmosphere that employees are working in.

- How to properly inspect, put on and take off, and use your respirator;

In order to properly inspect, don and doff and correctly wear you respirator please consult the training videos provided by the individual manufacturers or the respirator that has been determined to provide adequate protection for the hazards you will encounter.

- How to check the seal of your respirator (also called a "user seal check");

The user seal check is performed in different ways depending on the type of respirator being worn. A seal check on a filtering face piece (disposable dust mask) is performed by cupping ones hands over the face piece, gently inhaling and exhaling and feeling for any leakage around where the respirator touches ones face.

Tight fitting respirators weather full face or half face are seal checked by covering the exhalation valve and gently exhaling while checking for leaks. They are also checked by covering the inhalation valves and gently inhaling while checking for leaks. Any air that is drawn around where the respirator contacts ones face indicates a leak and the respirator will need to be adjusted. Please consult the manufacturer of the particular brand of respirator and filter type for proper seal check testing procedure.

- How to use the respirator effectively in emergency situations, including situations in which the respirator doesn't work properly;

During the course of weatherization activities to the best of our knowledge there should not be a situation where an employee is subjected to an immediately dangerous to life and health atmosphere constituting an emergency. Any situations regarding a dangerous atmosphere will be made known the employee by means of atmosphere monitoring. The threshold limits for various atmospheres will follow OSHA and BPI guidelines for evacuation of that location. In the event there is an atmosphere present that could harm an employee such as low oxygen or high carbon monoxide a respirator would not protect that employee. Such areas need to be evacuated and you supervisor needs to be notified. Sources of the dangerous atmosphere will be identified, eliminated, and the atmosphere re tested before bodily re-entry. All employees are encouraged to make determinations on individual situations they encounter and freely encouraged to leave an area if they do not feel safe or need to do additional testing to verify that an area is safe to bodily enter.

- How to recognize medical signs and symptoms that may limit or prevent you from using a respirator;

Medical signs and symptoms will be diagnosed by a medical professional. IN-CAA has employed the services of NOVA medical to make all medical determination for each employee that will be required to wear a respirator. During the medical clearance conducted by NOVA medical the occupational doctors will review such scenarios with each employee.

- How improper fit, usage, or maintenance can reduce your respirator's ability to protect you;

If your respirator does not fit or is not worn correctly contaminants can pass around the respirator and enter your nose mouth and lungs

If you do not use your respirator, it will not protect you

If you do not keep your respirator clean, you will be breathing in contaminants that you are trying to protect your self from.

- What the procedures are for maintenance and storage of the respirator; and

For proper maintenance and storage please see the 3M training video

- What the requirements are for federal OSHA's or your State OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standards.

For this information please see IN-CAA's written respiratory protection program