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## Risk Element

### Aim

This Safe Working Instruction, identifies the requirements to enable all users to make effective use of the measures that are provided to control their exposure to hazardous substances

### General Design

Facemasks are designed for use in limited concentration of toxic gases or highly toxic particles. Facemasks must be only be used in conjunction with the appropriate certified canister for the application.

### Fitting the Facemask

Hang facemask around neck by means of the neck strap. Fit facemask by placing thumbs inside head harness straps, put chin into face mask first and pull straps over head. Position facemask so that chin fits snugly into chin-cup. Gently tighten head harness, lower side straps first, then top side straps and finally top strap. A correct seal can be obtained without over tightening.

### Filter & Canister

Connect filter canister to screw thread of facemask prior to donning instructions above.

Check Facemask and canister inward leakage by placing the hand over the inlet to the canister. Breathe in the facemask should be drawn into the face. If a leak is detected, readjust the facemask and head harness then repeat test.

**Note: It is important that a satisfactory fit to the face is achieved prior to entry into the hazardous area. The filter canister protective cap must be removed prior to use.**

### Service Life of Canister

The service life of the canister is largely dependant upon the concentration of gas or fume to which its subjected. Saturation can as a rule be established subjectively when the air inhaled begins to smell or:

- Breathing becomes difficult;
- Dizziness or other distress occurs;
- You smell or taste the contaminant;
- Sense irritation;
- The facemask becomes damaged.

The canister must be replaced after every use and disposed of in accordance with approved code of practice.

### Limitations of Use

Never alter or modify the respirator as this reduce the protection to the wearer. The face mask does not supply oxygen and as such must not be used in in atmospheres containing less that 17% oxygen or in stills & tanks. The face mask must not be stored in temperatures below freezing.

**Facial Hair** – A good face seal will only be obtained if the skin in the region of the seal is smooth & without hair. Facial hair will tend to lift the mask off the face and permit inward leakage of contaminated air. This is also true of beard stubble. Protection can be reduced during the course of the working day. Therefore users must not have beards or hair in the region of the face seal.

### Responsibilities

- The user is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facemask in accordance with the suppliers instructions;
- Report any defects real or suspected to your Supervisor or Manager immediately. Do Not Use the Facemask.