Chapter 29: Respiratory Protection

Quick Start Summary

1 Who needs to know about these requirements

The requirements of Respiratory Protection apply to workers, supervisors, ESH coordinators, and the Occupational Health Center. They cover authorizing workers to use a respirator (including evaluating need for a respirator; selecting the appropriate respirator type and cartridge type and changeout schedule; medically evaluating and training workers; and fit testing) and the use, inspection, maintenance, and storage of respirators and dust masks.

2 Why

In certain work environments harmful dusts, mists, fumes, gases, vapors, or radioactive or toxic particles cannot be adequately removed from the air so respiratory protection must be used.

3 What do I need to know

Only workers who have been authorized to do so may use respirators. The authorization process involves approval by the supervisor and ESH coordinator; training; medical evaluation, and fit testing. The authorization process must be completed before a respirator is worn and must be renewed every year.

Respirators must be used, inspected, stored, and maintained according to the requirements of this program. Workers are to use only the respirators they have been issued and only for the processes and operations that have been reviewed.

Workers who are not authorized to use respirators may elect to use dust masks, following the requirements of this program.

4 When

These requirements take effect 24 February 2014.

5 Where do I find more information

SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001)
  • Chapter 29, “Respiratory Protection”

Or contact the program manager.