

**Acid Gas (AG)** means an acidic substance in a volatile state.

**Air Purifying Respirator (APR)** means a respirator with a purifying or cleansing filter, cartridge or canister that removes specific air contaminants through negative pressure.

**Assigned protection factor (APF)** means the workplace level of respiratory protection that a respirator or class of respirators is expected to provide to employees when the employer implements a continuing, effective respiratory protection program as specified by this section.

**Atmosphere-supplying respirator** means a respirator that supplies the respirator wearer with breathing air from a source independent of the ambient atmosphere, and includes supplied-air respirators (SARs) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) units.

**Canister or cartridge** means a container with a filter, sorbent, catalyst, or combination of these items, which removes specific contaminants from the air passed through the container.

**Demand respirator** means an atmosphere-supplying respirator that admits breathing air to the facepiece only when a negative pressure is created inside the facepiece by inhalation.

**Emergency situation** means any occurrence such as, but not limited to, equipment failure, rupture of containers, or failure of control equipment that may or does result in an uncontrolled significant release of an airborne contaminant.

**Employee exposure** means exposure to a concentration of an airborne contaminant that would occur if the employee were not using respiratory protection.

**End-of-service-life indicator (ESLI)** means a system that warns the respirator wearer of the approach of the end of adequate respiratory protection, for example, that the sorbent is approaching saturation or is no longer effective.

**Escape-only respirator** means a respirator intended to be used only for emergency exit.

**Filter or air purifying element** means a component used in respirators to remove solid or liquid aerosols from the inspired air.

**Filtering facepiece (dust mask)** means a negative pressure particulate respirator with a filter as an integral part of the facepiece or with the entire facepiece composed of the filtering medium.

**Fit factor:** A quantitative estimate of the fit of a particular respirator to a specific individual. Typically estimates of the ratio of the concentration of a substance in ambient air to its concentration inside the respirator when worn.

**Fit-test** means the use of a protocol to qualitatively or quantitatively evaluate the fit of a respirator on an individual. (See also Qualitative fit-test QLFT and Quantitative fit-test QNFT.)

**High Efficiency Particulate Air Filter (HEPA):** A filter that is at least 99.97% efficient in removing mono-dispersed particles of 0.3 microns in diameter. The equivalent NIOSH 42 CFR 84 particulate filters are the N100, R100 and P100 filters.

**Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH):** An atmosphere that poses an immediate threat to life that would cause irreversible adverse health effects or would impair an individual's ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere.

**Loose-fitting facepiece** means a respiratory inlet covering that is designed to form a partial seal with the face.

**Maximum use concentration (MUC)** means the maximum atmospheric concentration of a hazardous substance from which an employee can be expected to be protected when wearing a respirator, and is determined by the assigned protection factor of the respirator or class of respirators and the exposure limit of the hazardous substance. The MUC can be determined mathematically by multiplying the assigned protection factor specified for a respirator by the required OSHA permissible exposure limit, short-term exposure limit, or ceiling limit. When no OSHA exposure limit is available for a hazardous substance, an employer must determine an MUC on the basis of relevant available information and informed professional judgment.

**Negative pressure respirator (tight-fitting)** means a respirator in which the air pressure inside the facepiece is negative during inhalation with respect to the ambient air pressure outside the respirator.

**NIOSH:** The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. A Department of Health and Human Services organization that conducts research on occupational safety and health issues.

**Organic Vapor (OV):** Synthetic or naturally occurring carbon-containing compound in the vapor state, which can be inhaled and cause undue respiratory harm.

**Oxygen deficient atmosphere** means an atmosphere with an oxygen content below 19.5% by volume.

**Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):** An exposure limit published and enforced by OSHA as a legal standard.

**Physician or other Licensed Health Care Professional (PLHCP):** An individual whose legally permitted scope of practice (license, registration or certification) allows him or her to independently provide, or be delegated the responsibility to provide medical evaluations and consultation.

**Powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR)** means an air-purifying respirator that uses a blower to force the ambient air through air-purifying elements to the inlet covering.

**Positive pressure respirator** means a respirator in which the pressure inside the respiratory inlet covering exceeds the ambient air pressure outside the respirator.

**Pressure demand respirator** means a positive pressure atmosphere-supplying respirator that admits breathing air to the facepiece when the positive pressure is reduced inside the facepiece by inhalation.

**Qualitative Fit-test (QLFT):** A pass/fail fit-test to assess the adequacy of respirator fit that relies on the individual's response to the test agent.

**Quantitative Fit-test (QNFT):** An assessment of the adequacy of the respirator fit by numerically measuring the amount of leakage into the respirator.

**Respiratory inlet covering** means that portion of a respirator that forms the protective barrier between the user's respiratory tract and an air-purifying device or breathing air source, or both. It may be a facepiece, helmet, hood, suit, or a mouthpiece respirator with nose clamp.

**Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)** means an atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the breathing air source is designed to be carried by the user.

**Service life** means the period of time that a respirator, filter or sorbent, or other respiratory equipment provides adequate protection to the wearer.

**Supplied Air Respirator (SAR):** Also known as airline respirators. An atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the source of breathing air is designed to be remotely located and supplied to the user by a pressurized airline.

**Tight-fitting facepiece** means a respiratory inlet covering that forms a complete seal with the face.

**User seal check** means an action conducted by the respirator wearer to determine if the respirator is properly seated to the face.