



## Addition of a Last Chance Bailout System to a NIOSH Certified Respirator



### Public Employees Safety & Health Bulletin ATTENTION: ALL Public Employers

July 2009

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL), the adding of a last chance bail out system such as the Firefighter Rescue Escape Device (FREDD) system to a NIOSH-certified self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) voids the NIOSH certification. (See attached letter)

According to 29 CFR 1910.134(d)(1)(ii), the employer shall select a NIOSH-certified respirator. The respirator shall be used in compliance with the conditions of its certification. If an employer provides a NIOSH-certified SCBA with a last chance bail out system added to the SCBA after it received certification from NIOSH, then the SCBA's NIOSH certification would be void and the employer would be in violation of 29 CFR 1910.134(d)(1)(ii).

### Safe Work Practices Save Lives

For additional Information on Public Employees Safety and Health Contact:

**Websites:** [http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lsse/safetyhealth\\_index.html](http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lsse/safetyhealth_index.html)  
<http://nj.gov/health/eoh/peoshweb/>

<p>Safety Issues New Jersey Department of Labor &amp; Workforce Development Office of PEOSH P.O. Box 386 Trenton, NJ 08625 (609) 292-0767 (800) 624-1644</p>		<p>Health Issues New Jersey Department of Health &amp; Senior Services PEOSH Program P.O. Box 360 Trenton, NJ 08625-0360 (609) 984-1863</p>
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and Prevention (CDC)  
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March 17, 2006

## Respirator User's Notice

### Subject: Meaning of NIOSH Approvals

It has been brought to the attention of NIOSH through phone calls and e-mails from respirator users that some misunderstanding may exist about what NIOSH approval actually means.

NIOSH approval is issued only to a specific and complete respirator assembly after the respirator has been evaluated in the laboratory and found to comply with all of the requirements of Title 42, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 84, and after the manufacturer's quality plan is determined to be satisfactory.

A NIOSH approval applies only to the specific respirator that is made up of the components included on the NIOSH approval label. The issuance of an approval number to a respirator manufacturer does not signify that every respirator built within that manufacturer's facility is also NIOSH approved.

A NIOSH approval applies only to the respirator as tested and additions or changes that may affect form fit or function will void the approval

Any respirator manufacturer making false claims such as these may be subject to rescission of all NIOSH approvals held by the manufacturer.

Sincerely yours,

Heinz Ahlers  
Acting Chief  
Technology Evaluation Branch  
National Personal Technology Laboratory

NIOSH/NPPTL/RESPIRATOR BRANCH/AHLERS/HARVEY/03/14/2006  
N:RB/Resources/All Manufacturers Letters/Users notice NIOSH Approval.doc  
Spelling Verified by: Harvey

Concur:  
Director, LB \_\_\_\_\_

bcc:  
RB Reading File  
Notebook for "Letter to All Manufacturers"