

Respiratory Protection

PROJECT / SITE	DATE	TALK LED BY

THE HAZARD

Dust, fumes, vapors and silica you cannot always see or smell. A respirator that does not seal is closer to no respirator than to a working one.

WHAT GOES WRONG

- Respirator worn over stubble or a beard, so air bypasses the seal entirely.
- The wrong cartridge for the hazard: a dust filter against solvent vapor.
- Filters used well past the point where breathing gets harder.
- A respirator borrowed from someone else, never fit-tested to the person wearing it.

CONTROLS: BEFORE YOU START

- Do a seal check every single time you put it on, positive and negative pressure.
- Be clean-shaven where the respirator seals against your face.
- Match the cartridge or filter to the actual hazard, and check the safety data sheet if unsure.
- Change filters on schedule, or sooner if breathing gets harder or you smell or taste anything.
- Store it clean and in a sealed bag, not loose in a gang box or the bed of a truck.

ASK THE CREW

1. What are we breathing on this job today that we cannot see?
2. Who has done a seal check this morning, and can you show the rest of us how?
3. When did you last change your filters?
4. If you can smell something through your respirator, what does that tell you?

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Everyone present signs below. This sheet is the record of the talk.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE
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SUPERVISOR / COMPETENT PERSON	SIGNATURE