

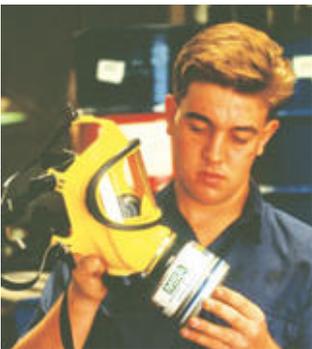


# Respiratory Protection

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SAFETY BRIEF  
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NAF ATSUGI



- **Respiratory Protection** means keeping yourself safe from breathing hazardous polluted air. Wearing respirators is your first level of protection against breathing hazards that could make you sick or even kill you. For your own safety, **you need to know:** 1) what types of respiratory hazards may threaten you; 2) which respirator(s) you're required to wear to reduce or eliminate these hazards; 3) how to use and maintain respirators properly.



Personnel are reminded that they must attend respirator training and be in the Respiratory Protection Program prior to using respirators. This even includes dust masks. Anyone who is going to use a respirator should first have a thorough physical exam (periodic check-up should follow), proper training and fit test before being issued a respirator. **Caution! Not everyone can wear a respirator!**

- OPNAVINST 5100.23F requires that a qualitative fit test be repeated **every 12 months**. Ensure that you are not overdue for your annual fit test.
- Respiratory protection is vitally important to welders, molders and personnel who may be exposed to hazardous metal fumes while performing their jobs. However, **the wrong respirator or an improperly fitted respirator is the same as wearing no respirator at all**. Be sure to check with your safety petty officer or the Safety Office to determine if your respirator is working properly.
- All personnel whose work requires the use of respirators are reminded: 1) **inspect** respirators before and after each use; 2) **perform** a positive and negative respirator face piece seal check prior to each use; 3) **report** any broken or missing parts to your immediate supervisor; 4) **Clean and store** respirator properly in a zip lock plastic bag after each use.

