

Ensuring an Effective Facial Seal for Wearing Respiratory Protective Equipment

“What is appropriate facial hair?”

INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Enform: Your Partner in Safety
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An Industry Product

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For more information on this event,
please contact: safety@enform.ca

All workers that are provided with Respiratory Protective equipment must ensure that the Respiratory Protective device makes an effective seal to the facial skin.

Employers must ensure that a fit test is conducted in accordance with CSA Z94.4-02, *Selection, Use and Care of Respirators* for each worker wearing respiratory protection. (Not required for single use, throw away respiratory filters)

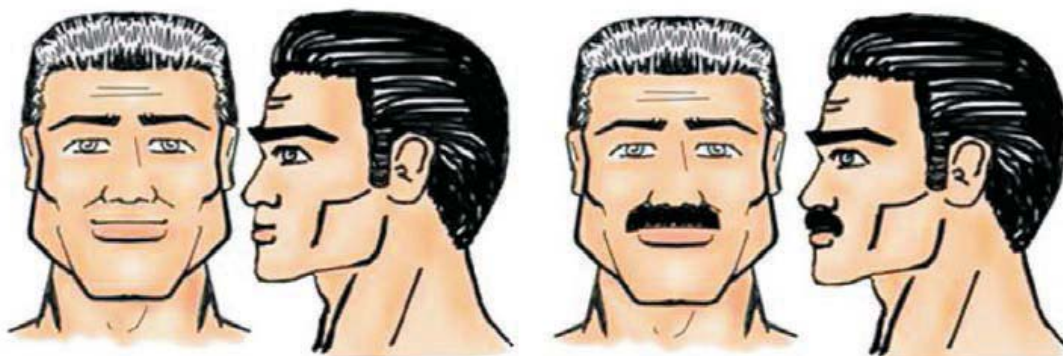
Fit tests must be:

- Conducted by a qualified individual
- Prior to initial use of respiratory protection
- Conducted only with a worker who is clean-shaven where the face piece seals to the skin

Workers are responsible to:

- Maintain facial hair as required by the fit test
- Only use respiratory protection equipment as identified in the fit test
- Conduct a fit check every time they use respiratory protection

The following pictures show acceptable facial hair to ensure an effective facial seal.



For additional information on Respiratory Protection please review the following regulatory sources

- [Alberta OHS Act, Regulation and Code](#) (3rd Edition) June 2009 Part 18, Section 250(1) Effective Facial Seal
- British Columbia OHS Regulation (4th Edition) March 2009 Part 8, [Section 8.39](#)
- Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulations (2011 Edition) Part [6.15 \(1\) \(c\)](#)
- Saskatchewan OHS Act and Regulations (1st Edition) Part V11 – Personal Protective Equipment [Part 88](#) (1) (iii)

By industry, for industry