

RPE SELECTION AND FACE-FIT TEST REGISTER

Who wears what, whether it fits their face, and when that was proved

REGISTER — **RETAIN ON SITE**

KD-OH-RP-004 Rev A0

RPE is the last control, not the first: COSHH 2002 reg 7 requires exposure to be prevented or controlled by other means before it, and where RPE is still needed it must be adequate for the hazard and suitable for the wearer — which is what a fit test proves. Tight-fitting masks (disposable FFP3, half and full face) seal against skin, so the fit test is done clean-shaven and the mask is worn clean-shaven every day; stubble breaks the seal, and a person who cannot shave is given a loose-fitting powered hood with an APF that still meets section 2. The same applies under CAR 2012 reg 11 and the Control of Lead at Work Regulations 2002 reg 6; COSHH 2002 reg 9(3) requires non-disposable RPE to be thoroughly examined at suitable intervals and the record kept — section 5. HSG53 (4th edition, 2013) is the HSE guide the selection and the examination follow, INDG479 (2019) the fit testing; the substance assessments the selection comes from are the COSHH set, and KD-INS-CO-017 is their register.

1 SITE

PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE	DATE	ASSESSMENTS THE SELECTION COMES FROM	REGISTER KEPT BY

2 SELECTION — ONE LINE PER HAZARD OR TASK

HAZARD / TASK	ASSESSMENT REF	APF REQUIRED	RPE TYPE	FILTER / CARTRIDGE	MAKE / MODEL / SIZES HELD	TIGHT-FIT?	SELECTED BY

3 THE RULES

- Fit test before first use of any tight-fitting mask, for that make, model and size; again when the face changes (weight, dental work, scarring, piercings), when the mask changes, or when other head-worn PPE is introduced or changed; and at the repeat interval the employer's policy sets — INDG479 (2019)
- Fit test by a competent fit tester; the method (qualitative or quantitative) and the result recorded in section 4; a failed test means a different mask, not a note on the file
- Clean-shaven where the seal sits — on the day of the test and every day the mask is worn; the supervisor sends a stubbled wearer to shave or issues a powered hood, and does not let them start
- A person who cannot be clean-shaven for medical or religious reasons is given a loose-fitting powered hood with an APF that still meets section 2, recorded there — never a tight-fitting mask
- Pre-use check by the wearer every time — seal check, valves, straps, filters in date; disposables discarded at the end of the shift or when breathing resistance rises
- Non-disposable RPE thoroughly examined at suitable intervals — COSHH 2002 reg 9(3); write the interval in at section 5 — and the record kept for at least five years
- Wearers trained to put on, check, wear, clean and store their RPE, and told what it does and does not protect against

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R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-09-02	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-09-02	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the reviewed draft; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue - material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) - editorial (wording or layout only) - review (checked, nothing changed) - withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.