

(c) To provide for the issuance of certificates of approval or modifications of certificates of approval for respirators which have met the applicable construction, performance, and respiratory protection requirements set forth in this part; and

(d) To specify minimum requirements and to prescribe methods to be employed by the Institute and by the applicant in conducting inspections, examinations, and tests to determine the effectiveness of respirators used during entry into or escape from hazardous atmospheres.

#### § 84.2 Definitions.

As used in this part—

(a) *Applicant* means an individual, partnership, company, corporation, association, or other organization that designs, manufactures, assembles, or controls the assembly of a respirator and who seeks to obtain a certificate of approval for such respirator.

(b) *Approval* means a certificate or formal document issued by the Institute stating that an individual respirator or combination of respirators has met the minimum requirements of this part, and that the applicant is authorized to use and attach an approval label to any respirator, respirator container, or instruction card for any respirator manufactured or assembled in conformance with the plans and specifications upon which the approval was based, as evidence of such approval.

(c) *Approved* means conforming to the minimum requirements of this part.

(d) *Auxiliary equipment* means a self-contained breathing apparatus, the use of which is limited in underground mine rescue and recovery operations to situations where the wearer has ready access to fresh air and at least one crew equipped with approved self-contained breathing apparatus of 2 hours or longer rating, is in reserve at a fresh-air base.

(e) *Certification and Quality Assurance Branch* means the Certification and Quality Assurance Branch, Division of Safety Research, Appalachian Laboratory for Occupational Safety and Health, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 1095 Willowdale Road, Morgantown, West Virginia 26505–2888.

(f) *Compressed-breathing gas* means oxygen or air stored in a compressed state and supplied to the wearer in gaseous form.

(g) *dBA* means sound pressure levels in decibels, as measured with the A-weighted network of a standard sound level meter using slow response.

(h) *Dust* means a solid mechanically produced particle with a size ranging from submicroscopic to macroscopic.

(i) *Respirators for entry into and escape from* means respiratory devices providing protection during entry into and escape from hazardous atmospheres.

(j) *Respirators for escape only* means respiratory devices providing protection only during escape from hazardous atmospheres.

(k) A *facepiece* or *mouthpiece* is a respirator component designed to provide a gas-tight or dust-tight fit with the face and may include headbands, valves, and connections for canisters, cartridges, filters, or respirable gas source.

(l) *Final inspection* means that activity carried out on a product after all manufacturing and assembly operations are completed to insure completeness and adherence to performance or other specifications, including satisfactory appearance.

(m) *Fume* means a solid condensation particle, generally less than 1 micrometer in diameter.

(n) *Gas* means an aeriform fluid which is in a gaseous state at ordinary temperature and pressure.

(o) *Hazardous atmosphere* means:

(1) Any atmosphere containing a toxic or disease producing gas, vapor, dust, fume, mist, or pesticide, either immediately or not immediately dangerous to life or health; or

(2) Any oxygen-deficient atmosphere.

(p) A *hood* or *helmet* is a respirator component which covers the wearer's head and neck, or head, neck, and shoulders, and is supplied with incoming respirable air for the wearer to breathe. It may include a headharness and connection for a breathing tube.

(q) *Immediately dangerous to life or health* means conditions that pose an immediate threat to life or health or conditions that pose an immediate threat of severe exposure to contaminants, such as radioactive materials,

which are likely to have adverse cumulative or delayed effects on health.

(r) *Incoming inspection* means the activity of receiving, examining, and accepting only those materials and parts whose quality conforms to specification requirements.

(s) *In-process inspection* means the control of products at the source of production and at each step of the manufacturing process, so that departures from specifications can be corrected before defective components or materials are assembled into the finished product.

(t) *Institute* means the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

(u) *Liquefied-breathing gas* means oxygen or air stored in liquid form and supplied to the wearer in a gaseous form.

(v) *Mist* means a liquid condensation particle with a size ranging from sub-microscopic to macroscopic.

(w) *MSHA* means the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

(x) *Not immediately dangerous to life or health* means any hazardous atmosphere which may produce physical discomfort immediately, chronic poisoning after repeated exposure, or acute adverse physiological symptoms after prolonged exposure.

(y) *Oxygen-deficient atmosphere* means an atmosphere which contains an oxygen partial pressure of less than 148 millimeters of mercury (19.5 percent by volume at sea level).

(z) *Powered air-purifying respirator* means a device equipped with a facepiece, hood, or helmet, breathing tube, canister, cartridge, filter, canister with filter, or cartridge with filter, and a blower.

(aa) *Respirator* means any device designed to provide the wearer with respiratory protection against inhalation of a hazardous atmosphere.

(bb) *Single-use respirator* means a respirator that is entirely discarded after excessive resistance, sorbent exhaustion, or physical damage renders it unsuitable for further use.

(cc) *Vapor* means the gaseous state of a substance that is solid or liquid at ordinary temperature and pressure.

### § 84.3 Respirators for mine rescue or other emergency use in mines.

(a)(1) NIOSH and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), U.S. Department of Labor, shall jointly review and issue certifications for respirators used for mine emergencies and mine rescue, including any associated service-life plans, users' manuals and other supporting documentation.

(2) Each certification for a respirator designed for mine rescue or other emergency use in mines shall include, as a condition of approval, any use limitations related to mine safety and health.

(b) NIOSH and MSHA shall jointly determine appropriate recall and retrofit remedies for field complaints or identified deficiencies involving any respirators used in the mining environment.

## Subpart B—Application for Approval

### § 84.10 Application procedures.

(a) Inspection, examination, and testing leading to the approval of the types of respirators classified in subpart F of this part shall be undertaken by the Institute only pursuant to written applications which meet the minimum requirements set forth in this subpart B.

(b) Applications shall be submitted to the Certification and Quality Assurance Branch, and shall be accompanied by a check, bank draft, or money order in the amount specified in subpart C of this part, payable to the order of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

(c) Except as provided in § 84.64, the examination, inspection, and testing of all respirators shall be conducted by the Certification and Quality Assurance Branch.

(d) Applicants, manufacturers, or their representatives may visit or communicate with the Certification and Quality Assurance Branch in order to discuss the requirements for approval of any respirator or the proposed designs thereof. No charge shall be made for such consultation and no written report shall be issued to applicants, manufacturers, or their representatives