

Example of a half masks air purifying respirator with dual Organic Vapor Cartridges.



RESPIRATORY PROTECTION FOR PAINTING

A respirator, approved for organic vapors, is required for spray painting and paint mixing activity.

The same respirator may be needed for brush or roller painting if vapor concentrations exceed the TLV (Threshold Limit Values) identified in the MSDS. If the TLV cannot be verified than the proper Organic Vapor respirator must be worn.

Half mask respirators have the capability to be interchanged with different cartridges for different material such as acid gases, particulates, asbestos and a verity of other substances.

Persons who are required to wear a respirator in the performance of their work must complete an interview with a medical practitioner to identify pre-existing conditions and medical history. They must also complete training on how to properly use and care for the respirator. A one time fit test must also be performed by a qualified person to verify if the respirator fits the users face. An improper seal voids the protection the filter and cartridge provides. The user must also know how to perform a fit check which must be performed every time the respirator is used.

Respiratory protection is an important subject and must be taken seriously. The substances that we breathe in can have an acute or chronic affect on our health and safety. There is a lot to learn about this subject. Never use a respirator unless you have been trained and authorized by your employer.

Chapter 40 of the Project Construction Safety Manual details the RGX 2 Respiratory Protection Program.



Sample of various cartridges that are interchangeable with the respirator. All cartridges are required to be marked to the material they protect against along with approval markings meeting recognized international standards such as NIOSH. All masks and cartridges must be used in accordance to the manufactures safe use specifications.

NO



This face mask is not approved for organic vapors. It is approved only for the protection of particulates generated from sweeping, dusting, insulation works and the like which are free of chemicals and hydrocarbons. These type of respirators have their place on a construction site but must be used in the prescribed manner per manufactures' safe use specifications. Never use respiratory protection unless you have been trained and after reading the manufactures ratings and instructions. Never use a respirator that is not marked to its limitations and approval ratings.

For more information on this subject visit:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/>

There is a wealth of information on this web site on respiratory protection along with free downloads.

SPECIFIC HIGHLIGHTS

ALL AREAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HAND TOOL TIE OFF: Use of hand tools near deck openings or leading edges need to be provided with a safety lanyard. This will prevent the tool from falling below if dropped. This is not a new subject and is not getting the attention it deserves. Let's don't wait for an accident to change this practice. • TIE OFF: We all need to stay on top of this important subject. Many observations noted with foot level tie off which increases fall distance. Tie off must be performed overhead. Supervisors to enforce. • S.T.A.R.T.: Supervisors who have work at elevated area need to conduct their START talk at the elevated area – not on the ground. START talks are required to be performed at the site of the work.
UTILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to verify equipment operator certifications. Forklift operator found not certified. • Sheet metal shop: Overall good conditions. Supervisor Vniyal - good job!. • Air hose clamps: Continue to find 2 point contact hose clamps in used. 4 point contact (claws) best.
OFF SITE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty paint cans and full containers of paint/thinners improperly disposed of at the lumber pile. Actioned.

TVH

NO WATER – NO WORK