



User Seal Check Procedures

Connecticut Department of Correction

Attachment D
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AD 2.28

You must ensure that each SDS contains the following information

The use of a tight-fitting respirator requires that the user perform a user seal check to ensure that an adequate seal is achieved each time the respirator is put on. Either the positive and negative pressure check listed or the manufacturer's recommended user seal check method shall be used.

1. Positive Pressure Check: Close off the exhalation valve and exhale gently into the facepiece. The face-fit is considered satisfactory if a slight positive pressure can be built up inside the facepiece without any evidence of outward leakage of air at the seal. For most respirators this method of leak testing requires the wearer to first remove the exhalation valve cover before closing off the exhalation valve and then carefully replacing it after the test.
2. Negative Pressure Check: Close off the inlet opening of the canister or cartridge(s) by covering with the palm of the hand(s) or by replacing the filter seal(s), inhale gently so the facepiece collapses slightly, and hold the breath for ten seconds. The design of the inlet opening of some cartridges may not be effectively covered with the palm of the hand if this condition exists, this test can be performed by covering the inlet opening of the cartridge with a thin latex or nitrile glove. If the facepiece remains in its slightly collapsed condition and no inward leakage of air is detected, the tightness of the respirator is considered satisfactory.
3. Manufacture's Recommended User Seal Check: The manufacture's recommended procedures for performing a user seal check may be used instead of the procedures listed above provided that they are demonstrated to be equally effective as the checks listed above.