

# 12,000

Deaths per year from occupational lung disease in Great Britain — proper respiratory protection is critical



## 40,000

New cases of occupational breathing problems per year in GB



## £1.6bn

Annual cost of occupational lung disease to Great Britain



## 30%

Of RPE fails to provide adequate protection without fit testing



## 95%

Of respiratory protection failures are preventable with fit testing

### FACE FIT TESTING PROCEDURE 5 STEPS TO EFFECTIVE RPE FIT TESTING

## 1

## 1

#### SELECT THE CORRECT RPE

Choose the appropriate type of respiratory protective equipment (RPE) for the hazard. Consider the type of contaminant, concentration levels and work activity. Consult the manufacturer's guidance and Safety Data Sheets.

## 2

## 2

#### PREPARE FOR THE TEST

Ensure the wearer has not eaten, drunk (except water), smoked or used cosmetics for at least 20 minutes before the test. Remove any facial hair in the seal area — even stubble can prevent an adequate seal.

## 3

## 3

#### CONDUCT THE FIT TEST

Use either qualitative (taste/smell sensitivity) or quantitative (instrument measurement) fit testing methods. Follow the approved test protocol including a series of exercises to simulate workplace movements.

## 4

## 4

#### ASSESS THE RESULT

A pass means the RPE provides adequate protection for that individual. A fail means a different size, model or type of RPE must be tried. Never allow a worker to use RPE that has failed a fit test.

## 5

## 5

#### RECORD AND REVIEW

Issue a fit test certificate and record the results. Fit testing must be repeated if the wearer's face shape changes, if a different RPE model is used, or at least every 2 years as a minimum requirement.



## 1 in 10

Workers exposed to respiratory hazards at work



## 1 day

To qualify as a Face Fit Testing Trainer



## 2 yrs

Recommended face fit test renewal interval