

*Did you know that Federal Law states that all employers must provide proper personal protective equipment and have their own written respiratory protection program in place?*

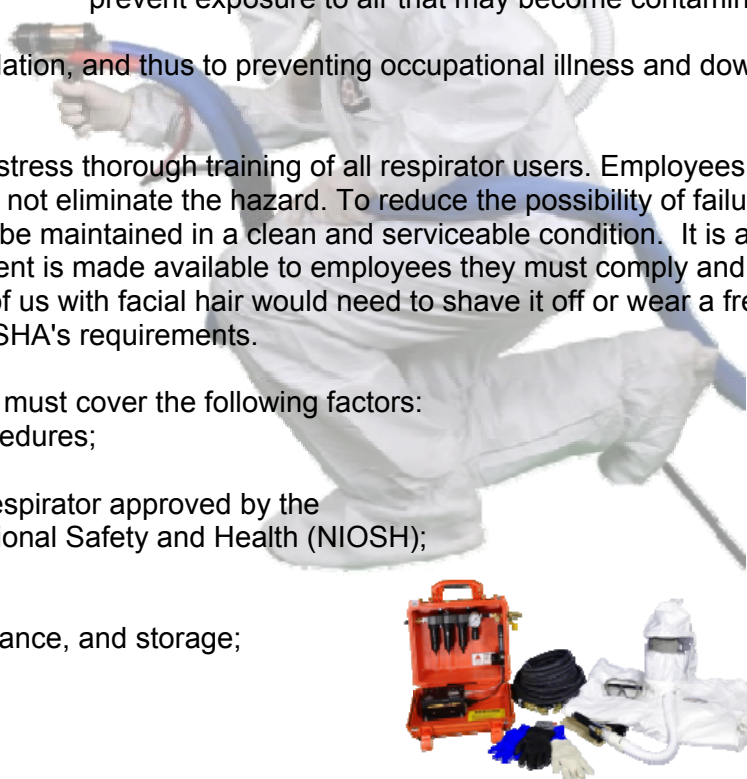
To help protect workers from respiratory hazards and facilitate a company's compliance with OSHA's Respiratory Protection Program Standard, The Center for Polyurethane Industries (CPI) developed a model respiratory protection program. The program, divided into ten steps, provides user-friendly documents guidance on appropriate respirators, respirator use, storage, fit and evaluation. The primary objective of the respiratory protection program is to prevent exposure to air that may become contaminated

when applying spray foam insulation, and thus to preventing occupational illness and down time.

Any respirator program should stress thorough training of all respirator users. Employees must be aware that a respirator does not eliminate the hazard. To reduce the possibility of failure, the respirator must fit properly and be maintained in a clean and serviceable condition. It is also required that when this equipment is made available to employees they must comply and wear at all times. Sorry guys, those of us with facial hair would need to shave it off or wear a fresh air hood in order to comply with OSHA's requirements.

An effective respirator program must cover the following factors:

- Written worksite specific procedures;
- Program evaluation;
- Selection of an appropriate respirator approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH);
- Training;
- Fit testing;
- Inspection, cleaning, maintenance, and storage;
- Medical evaluations;
- Work area surveillance; and
- Air quality standards.



Most, if not all, Spray Foam Manufacturers require a supplied air respirator for the applicator and anyone within 25 feet of the gun and an air purifying cartridge for those individuals outside of 25 feet from the gun to comply with OSHA's guidelines. To view OSHA's guidelines you can visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

IDI Distributors carries both fresh air systems and cartridge systems. Please contact your IDI representative for pricing and availability.

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