

# ADVANCEMENTS IN RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING WITH CNP

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## WHAT IS A FIT TEST?

The use of a protocol to evaluate the fit of a respirator on an individual Verifies training and identifies the specific make, model, style, and size of respirator best suited for each employee QUALITATIVE FIT TESTING (QLFT) Subjective, Pass/Fail test that relies on the employee's response to an agent to detect leakage

- Current typical methods:
  - Isoamyl Acetate
  - Saccharin
  - Bitrex

If the presence of the test agent is detected inside the mask, the respirator fit is considered to be inadequate

Only be used to fit test negative pressure air-purifying respirators that require a fit factor of 100 or less (typically half mask)

# QLFT

- Inexpensive
- Low maintenance
- Imprecise
- Subjective
- Subject to cheating
- Slow



## QUANTITATIVE FIT TESTING (QNFT)

Objective; Uses a machine to measure leakage into the mask

Provides a numerical value of the fit called a fit factor

- Three methods accepted by OSHA:
  - Controlled Negative Pressure
  - Ambient Aerosol Condensation Nuclei Counter (CNC)
  - Generated aerosol

Can be used on any tight-fitting respirator

## TWO MOST COMMON METHODS OF QNFT

#### CNP

- OHD Quantifit & QuantiFit2
- Air is the challenge agent
- Uses a Controlled Negative Pressure to directly measure respirator leakage
- Precisely measures leak rate (in cc/min) by determining the amount of air that leaks into the respirator during the fit test

#### **Ambient Aerosol CNC**

- TSI PortaCount or Accutec AccuFIT 9000
- Aerosols are the challenge agent
- Carried out by probing the facepiece and calculating the ratio of external particles to the particles in the mask
- Aerosol can be artificially created for testing if natural particle counts are too low

# QNFT

- More expensive
- Require maintenance
- Precise
- Objective
- Documentation
- Faster



## WHY FIT TEST?

- Protect the health of employees
- Ensure employees are trained on their mask and their risk
- Provide employees peace of mind
- Required by:
  - OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134
  - ANSI Z88.10 2010
  - ISO 16975 2017



## WHEN TO FIT TEST?

- As part of the initial respirator selection
- Where an untested facepiece is already in

use

# HOW ABOUT A REPEAT TEST?

- When the wearer:
  - Loses or gains significant weight (+/- 20lbs or 9kg)
  - Undergoes any substantial dental work
  - Develops any facial changes (scars, moles, etc.) around the faceseal area
- At the regulated time interval



# WHO CAN FIT TEST?

- "Qualified" individuals?
- "Competent" individuals?
- Anyone?

### **RESP-FIT**

Officially launched December of 2020

Identified metrics for qualifying individuals to perform fit testing

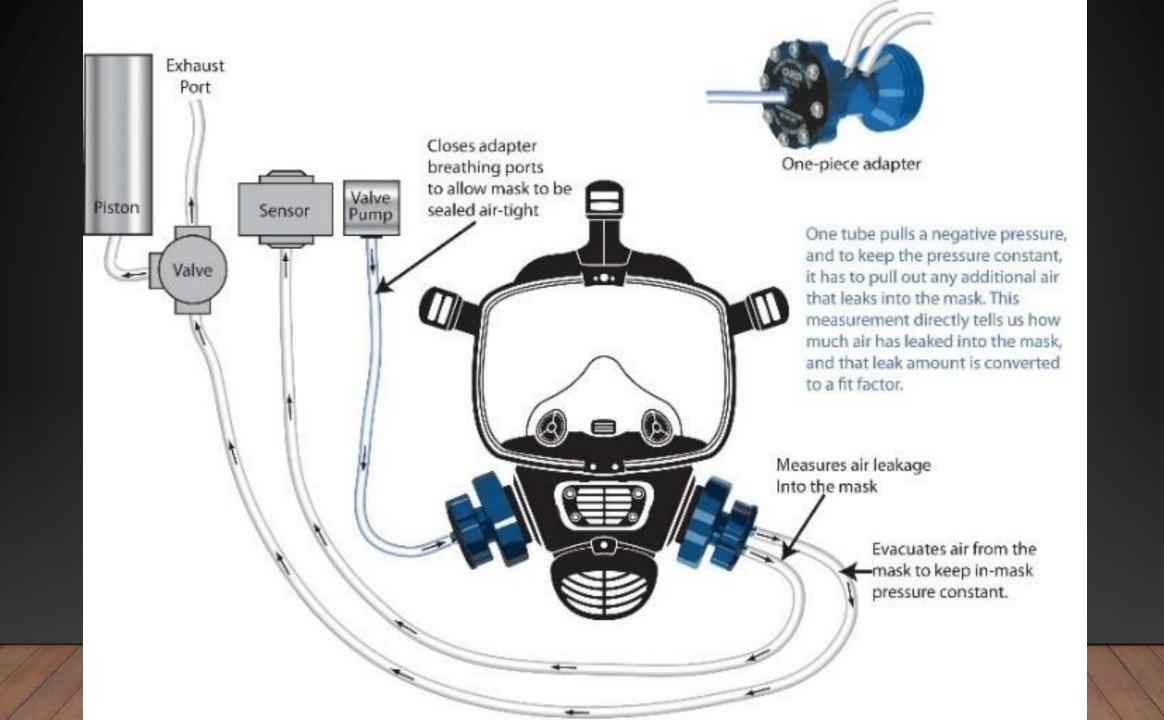
Resource for Fit Test training

Offers Fit Testing accreditation



# CONTROLLED NEGATIVE PRESSURE

- The OHD QuantiFit2 instrument.
- Uses a Controlled Negative Pressure to directly measure respirator leakage.
- CNP precisely measures leak rate by determining the amount of air that leaks into the respirator during the fit test.
- Air is the challenge agent.



# $\begin{array}{c} \text{CNP FIT FACTOR} = \\ \text{BR / LR} \end{array}$

Where:

BR = inspiratory flow rate associated with CNP challenge pressure (modeled breathing rate);

LR = mean leakage flow rate (leak rate) measured with the head held still at the end of each test exercise

### Where:

OVERALL FIT FACTOR =

N / [1/FF1 + 1/FF2+... 1/FFN] N = The number of exercises;

FF1 = The fit factor for the first exercise;

FF2 = The fit factor of the second exercise;

FFN = The fit factor of the Nth Exercise.

## **REDON PROTOCOL**

Step 1	Facing Forward – for 30 seconds followed by a 10 second measurement
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Step 2	Bending Over – for 30 seconds followed by a 10 second measurement
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Step 3	Head Shaking – Several times while shouting for 3 seconds followed by a 10 second measurement
Step 4	REDON 1 – Remove mask loosen straps then redon followed by a 10 second measurement
Step 5	REDON 2 – Remove mask loosen straps then redon followed by a 10 second measurement



## **QUANTIFIT2 EXPERIENCE**

QuantiFit

- Battery Power
- Bluetooth Capability
- Color Touch Screen Display
- AutoStart
- On Screen Signature Capture
- OHD Logic
- Perform Multiple Tests Simultaneously

# QUANTIFIT2 BATTERY



FOUR PLUS HOUR RUN TIME

RECHARGEABLE (QUANTIFIT2 OR CHARGING CABLE) UNLOCKING ALL RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING ENVIRONMENTAL RESTRICTIONS

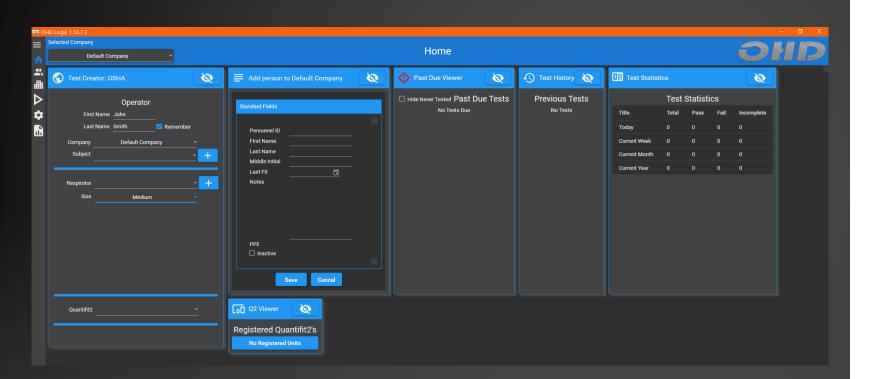
# LED TOUCHSCREEN

# **ANIMATION GUIDANCE**



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## OHD LOGIC SOFTWARE



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	0		Fit Repo							
Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 02:21:30 PM										
TERESA LARSON										
OHD										
	Respirator:	Scott AV2000		Protocol:	OSHA - SCBA					
	Size & Type:	Medium Full		Challenge Pressure:	1.5					
	Serial Number:	86111012		Last Daily Verification:	02/17/21					
	Minimum Fit Factor:	500		Last NIST Calibration:	11/13/20					
	Step		Fit Fact	or Leak Rat	2					
	1 Face forward		8387	11.1						
	2 Bend over		1577	59						
	3 Shake head		2096	44.4						
	4 Re-don 1		2644	35.2						
	5 Re-don 2		2221	41.9						
	Overall		2428	38.3						
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	Using OSHA - SCBA protocol Overall Fit Factor: 2428 Pass									
	Good Through: 02/23/22									
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OHD Logic 1.16	5.8.2				
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## FIT TESTING CONCERNS

Because of how an elastomeric respirator functions (with an unfiltered exhaust valve) – the fit test operator is not being protected from the subject's possibly contaminated air. Because of how quantitative fit testing is performed (with adapters or a probe) – the subject is not being protected from the operator's possibly contaminated air.

### COVID CONSIDERATIONS FOR FIT TESTING

- Exposure to other people is the risk this makes the operator's risk likely higher
- Implement COVID health screening (may send out before testing)
- Make any aspect possible either electronic or virtual/remote (i.e. training, signing fit test reports, etc.)
- Temperature/symptom checks at testing
- If any symptoms are reported or observed, do not perform the fit test
- Use as much space as possible (outside is best)
- PPE for fit test operator (choice on extent, but can include gloves, respirator, protective eyewear etc.)

### COVID CONSIDERATIONS FOR FIT TESTING CONT.

- Maintain physical distancing of at least 6ft at every point possible
- Face coverings for source control should be used during every part of the process possible (This can include the use of a covering over the exhaust valve of the respirator as long as it does not interfere with any aspect of fit)
- Allow only one test subject in the space at a given time
- Provide time for the space to clear out
- Wipe down common surfaces (including Quantifit, outside of tubing, and adapter)

## QUANTIFIT/QUANTIFIT2 OPERATION

- The machine does not trap air in its system
- The adapters do not hold air
- The tubes are open to the environment
- The air pulled into the machine is from the surrounding environment
- The vast majority of any particulate matter pulled into the machine would be impacted within the machine itself as it is a turbulent environment for the air
- There is no **added** risk from the use of the Quantifit or QuantiFit2

# **QUESTIONS?**

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