

## Request for Voluntary Respirator Usage

In order to receive approval to use respirators voluntarily as defined by 29 CFR 1910.134 (OSHA's Respiratory Protection Rule), print this form, complete sections 1-2 (*make sure that you and your supervisor sign it*) and send it to the Respiratory Protection Program Administer at 102 TOMH. The program administrator will then contact you. If you have any additional questions, contact the program administrator at 422-2943 or via email at [kerry\\_smith@byu.edu](mailto:kerry_smith@byu.edu).

### Section 1 Employee Certification:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) do hereby certify that I am voluntarily using a respirator to reduce my exposure to the following contaminant (list name or type of contaminant)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have been given a copy of 29 CFR 1910.134 Appendix D regarding the proper respirator use and I have read and understand it.

Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

### Section 2 Supervisor Certification:

I approve this voluntary usage of respiratory protection for this employee.

Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Section 3 BYU Risk Management & Safety Dept. certification:

I have determined that this voluntary use of a respirator will not create a hazard in the workplace and approve this voluntary usage of respiratory protection for this employee. The respirator is a NIOSH approved, filtering face-piece respirator and no further action is required.

Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Appendix D of OSHA's Respiratory Protection Rule is on the following page

## **Appendix D of 29CFR 1910.134 (OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard)**

### **Information for Employees Using Respirators When Not Required Under the Standard**

Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards when properly selected and worn. Respirator use is encouraged, even when exposures are below the exposure limit, to provide an additional feel of comfort and protection for workers. However, if a respirator is used improperly or not kept clean, the respirator itself can become a hazard to the worker. Sometimes, workers may wear respirators to avoid exposures to hazards, even if the amount of hazardous substance does not exceed the limits set by OSHA standards. If your employer provides respirators for your voluntary use, or if you provide your own respirator, you need to take certain precautions to be sure that the respirator itself does not present a hazard.

You should do the following:

1. Read and heed all instructions provided by the manufacturer on use, maintenance, cleaning and care, and warnings regarding the respirators limitations.
2. Choose respirators certified for use to protect against the contaminant of concern. NIOSH, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, certifies respirators. A label or statement of certification should appear on the respirator or respirator packaging. It will tell you what the respirator is designed for and how much it will protect you.
3. Do not wear your respirator into atmospheres containing contaminants for which your respirator is not designed to protect against. For example, a respirator designed to filter dust particles will not protect you against gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.
4. Keep track of your respirator so that you do not mistakenly use someone else's respirator.