

Appendix A

Information and Acknowledgement Form for Employees using Respirators When Not Required Under the OSHA Standard Sec. 29 CFR 1910.134, Appendix D

You have indicated that you wish to voluntarily wear a respiratory protection device. The following information is required by OSHA to be supplied to employees who wish to use respiratory protection devices voluntarily. Please read this information and sign the form to indicate that you have received this information:

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 level 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. Wear the respirator in non-hazardous areas only (voluntary respirator use is permitted in non-hazardous atmospheres only).
5. Keep track of your respirator so that you do not mistakenly use someone else's respirator.

I acknowledge that I have read the University's Respiratory Protection Program including the section on Voluntary (Comfort) Respirator Use, and have received a copy of the information for voluntary use of respirators when not required under the Standard Sec. 1910.134. I have discussed these documents with my supervisor, have received medical clearance, if required, to wear a respirator, and am in compliance with the University Respiratory Protection Program. I will receive a signed copy of this document from my supervisor for my records.

Employee Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

This document must be kept on file in the user's department respiratory protection records.