NOTE: The following applies to the use of a Half-face Negative Pressure Air Purifying Respirator equipped with HEPA filters.

WARNING: Such respirator does not generate or have their own supply of oxygen. They must not be used in oxygen deficient atmospheres (less than 19.5%); in poorly ventilated areas or enclosed spaces such as tanks or small rooms; for abrasive blasting or fire fighting; or for protection against contaminants excluded or not covered by the applicable Approval Label.

Respirators must be approved for protection against asbestos. Check for NIOSH certification.

1.0 RESPIRATOR FITTING

1.1 Persons required to wear a respirator must first pass a qualitative fit-test administered in accordance with the most current version of CSA standard Z-94.4. The fit-test should be repeated yearly.

1.2 The respirator wearer must be clean-shaven along all the seal points for proper protection to be obtained. Even stubble growth may be sufficient to reduce the seal of the face-piece, and therefore the protection. The respirator approval is voided for users with facial hair that may interfere with the seal.

2.0 CHECK PRIOR TO EACH USE

2.1 Examine face-piece for any:
- dirt (clean if necessary);
- cracks, tears or holes (obtain new face-piece);
- distortion and inflexibility (stretch and knead to restore shape and flexibility or obtain new face-piece);
- cracks, or breaks in filter holders, worn threads and missing gaskets (replace or obtain new face-piece).

2.2 Examine head straps for any:
- breaks or tears (replace if discovered);
- loss of elasticity (replace if discovered);
- broken or malfunctioning buckles and attachments (replace if discovered).

2.3 Examine valves for signs of any:
- detergent residue, dust or other material on valves or valve seats (clean before use);
- cracks, tears or distortion in the valve material (replace if discovered);
- missing or defective valves or valve covers (replace if discovered).

2.4 Examine filter for:
- proper filter for protection against asbestos (High Efficiency Particulate)
- incorrect installation, loose connections, missing or worn gaskets or cross threading (remove and re-install);
- cracks or dents in filter housing (replace if discovered).
2.5 Perform the following tests for leaks on each donning of the respirator:

- **negative pressure test**: cover inlets to filters, breathe in and hold breath; respirator should be drawn to face for minimum of 10 seconds (if not, check exhalation valve and fit);

- **positive pressure test**: cover exhalation valve cover and puff out slightly and hold breath; respirator should slightly pressurize and still hold seal (if not, check inhalation valves and fit).

3.0 **RESPIRATOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTION**

3.1 Remove filters and disassemble face-piece. Discard or repair defective parts.

3.2 Wash components in warm water (50°C - 60°C) with mild detergent, using a brush. Respirator suppliers can provide ready-made cleaning and disinfectant solutions and instructions for use.

3.3 Thoroughly rinse components in clean, warm water.

3.4 Air dry or hand dry components with a clean, lint-free cloth.

3.5 Reassemble respirator and test to ensure that all components are working properly (see above). Be careful to check that valves are not lost in cleaning.