



## CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

### Technical Sub-Committee on the Performance and Testing of Filtering Respirators

November 11, 2020

**Dear Members and Stakeholders,**

CSA Group is inviting interested expert stakeholders to apply for membership on a new Technical Sub-Committee, under the umbrella of the CSA Z94.4 Respirator Technical Committee, which will be responsible for developing the requirements and content for a new CSA National Standard for the performance of filtering respirators.

**Scope:**

The standard will address performance and testing requirements for:

- Respirators which operate in the air filtering mode; and
- The filtering performance of combination unit respirators which operate in both air filtering and air supplying modes.

The scope of this new standard will also address the cleaning, disinfection, and re-use of these types of respirators, and will also address fit-testing requirements.

**Project Need:**

The impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic has demonstrated the need for a domestic supply of filtering respirators (e.g. N95 respirators) that will meet required performance and quality requirements to protect Canadians. CSA Group has been collaboratively working with key stakeholders, including Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the National Research Council and academia to address this need and for a new National Standard of Canada that will specify performance and testing requirements for filtering type respirators. A key objective will be the harmonization of performance and testing requirements with established standards (e.g., NIOSH, as well as those standards currently under development by the International Organization for Standardization).

It is expected that Technical Sub-Committee members will be able to provide diverse stakeholder input on national requirements representing the following interest categories:

- **General Interest** – this category may include those representatives of academic and scientific interests with expertise in the subject area. Includes, representatives of relevant associations, public interest groups and other experts in the area;

- **Producer/Supplier Interest** —this category shall include those who are predominantly involved with production, promotion, retailing, or distribution of filtering type respirators;
- **User Interest** — this category includes organizations and those who use filtering type respirators. This category also includes those who represent labour organizations; and
- **Regulatory Authority Interest**—those who are predominantly involved in regulating the use of the subject product(s), related to provincial territorial and federal regulatory bodies.

In addition to the categories outlined above, an effort will be made to ensure geographic and sectoral representation.

#### **What is expected?**

- Strong interest and knowledge of the subject matter
- Active participation and willingness to work on the Technical Sub-Committee electronically and in-person. Note: Due to COVID-19, all meetings will be held virtually for now.
- Ability to represent a stakeholder category as outlined above
- Ability to work in a multi-stakeholder environment, following the principles of consensus

There is a need to move quickly to start the standards development work and as such we are planning for the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee to take place in the first week of December 2020.

If you are interested in participating as a member of this Technical Sub-Committee, please submit a brief bio along with a statement outlining your interest and ability to contribute to the work, to Ron Meyers, Project Manager, at [ron.meyers@csagroup.org](mailto:ron.meyers@csagroup.org) by November 20, 2020.