

# RPE and CFC

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#### RPE

#### RPE

- Respiratory Protective Equipment
- Used in the workplace to protect the wearer
- Use is determined by a risk assessment
- Further information can be found from HSE guidance such as HSG 53
- Many different types FFPs, PAPRs, BA
- Level of protection determined by its APF





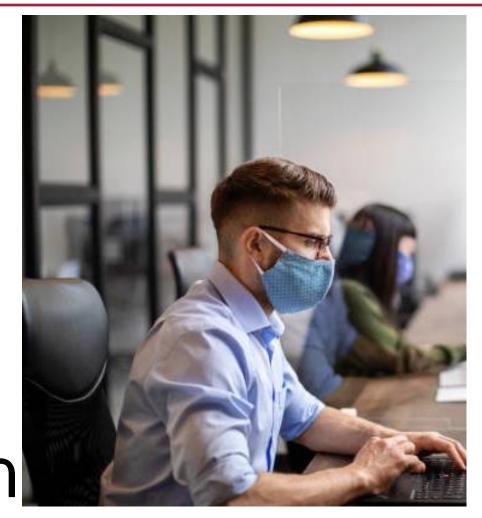




### CFC

### CFC

- Community Face Covering
- Term introduced since start of the COVID 19 pandemic
- Many other names causing confusion
- Government advice as part of their rules and restrictions during the COVID 19 pandemic
- Largely intended to protect others,
  not the wearer, against the spread of infection











### Regulations

#### RPE

- HSW act places the duty on the employer to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of all employees
- ACoP set out the regulations under specific topics such as COSHH, CAR or CLAW. These set out the preferred methods for compliance with the regulations.

#### CFC

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- There are some public places where you must wear a face covering by law, unless you are exempt or have a reasonable excuse
- Premises where face coverings are required should take reasonable steps to promote compliance with the law
- The police can take measures if members of the public do not comply with this law

### Regulations specific to RPE

- The law says that RPE used at work must be:
  - Adequate and provide the wearer with effective protection
  - Suitable for the intended use
  - 'CE' marked or 'UKCA' marked
  - Selected, used and maintained by trained people
  - Correctly stored



### Adequate RPE

- RPE that is right for the hazard and reduces the exposure to the level required to protect the wearer's health
- Usually selected so the WEL is not exceeded in conjunction with the hierarchy of control
- There is no WEL for coronavirus
- WHO recommended N95 or equivalent as giving adequate protection against coronavirus for aerosol generating procedures (AGPs)
- It was a UK requirement for FFP3 (APF 20) in order to reduce exposure to infectious agents to ALARP.



# Adequate RPE against coronavirus for AGPs

These are all adequate but are they suitable or practical?







### Suitability of RPE

- RPE that is right for the wearer, task and environment, such that the wearer can work freely and without additional risks due to the RPE
- Wearer
  - Fit testing, vision, breathing resistance
- Work task
  - Work rate, vision requirements, other PPE
- Work environment
  - Communication, temperature, space to move
- Minimum user impediment
  - Weight, heat burden, restricted mobility
- No additional risk
  - Trailing hoses, other alarms in working environment



## Suitable RPE against coronavirus for AGPs

These types are more suitable for use in AGPs and

typically used









#### **CE** mark

- Demonstrates the PPE satisfies the basic health and safety requirements of the Regulation (EU) 2016/425 on personal protective equipment
- Particularly important during the COVID 19 pandemic
  - High numbers of fraudulent PPE
- EU Recommendation 2020/403
  - As the MSA, this recommendation makes HSE the authority who assess non-CE marked PPE and clear it for use
    - For healthcare workers for protection against COVID 19;
    - For the duration of the current crisis; and
    - On the basis that the PPE does not enter regular distribution channels.

### **CE** mark

Correct markings on product

- Correct documentation
- Instructions
  - In English
  - Storage, use, and cleaning including any decontamination

