

ISRP 2002 abstract

Presenter/author	Title	Abstract
Bryson, Nigel <i>Directorate of health and Environment, GMB, London, UK</i>	Breathing in Comfort and Safety	<p>In order to place respiratory protective equipment (RPE) onto the market in the European Union, manufacturers have to comply with the PPE Directive, which, except in special cases, means complying with CEN standards. The standards base the practical tests of the equipment on laboratory assessments. However those who have to work in the equipment know that these lab tests more often than not do not accord with the real situations faced.</p> <p>If the RPE is to be effective, the standards for design and manufacture must take into account how such equipment is used in practice. By designing RPE that incorporates effective field trials, manufacturers will be in a better position to offer protective equipment that is more likely to fit, be effective and actually protect the people wearing it.</p> <p>The presentation will demonstrate how participatory ergonomics can be used to improve the design and effectiveness of RPE.</p>