

## ISRP 2002 abstract

Presenter/author	Title	Abstract
Boord, Leslie <b>Dower</b> , John M.  <i>National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory, NIOSH, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, USA</i>	<b>NIOSH CBRN respiratory Protection Standards Update</b>	<p>Emergency response forces in the United States are required under federal regulations to provide NIOSH-approved respirators appropriate for the expected hazards. NIOSH efforts to develop the appropriate respiratory protection standards began with a domestic assessment of potential chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) terrorism agents. A review of national and international military and industrial respiratory protection standards for protection against terrorism agents was conducted. Based upon findings from the threat assessment and standards review, NIOSH developed a three year schedule for NIOSH CBRN respirator standards to address all classes of respiratory protection.</p> <p>In December 2001, NIOSH announced the first set of CBRN respirator standards to address open-circuit self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Fire fighters and hazardous material incident (HAZMAT) responders expressed a primary concern that their open-circuit SCBA would survive a CBRN exposure. The NIOSH CBRN SCBA standard combines a three tier approval structure: NIOSH industrial SCBA approval; National Fire Protection Association fire service certification; and three special performance tests against chemical warfare agents and facepiece protection levels. Current CBRN respirator standards efforts are directed at standards for full facepiece air-purifying respirators. Standards concepts and future standards schedules will be discussed.</p>