[ABS14]

To Be Ahead – the New ISO Respiratory Protective Device Standard: a Progress Report of ISO/TC94/SC15

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The presentation provides an overview on the work progress of the ISO Sub- Committee (SC)15 within ISO/TC94, highlighting the recent major developments and successes of SC15, its working groups (WGs) and specifically its project groups (PGs) and is a follow up of previous reports held at past ISRP conferences.

SC15 has made substantial progress since its inauguration in 2002. We have seen our first successful publications – Technical Specifications titled "Human factors – Metabolic rates and respiratory flow rates" and “Anthropometrics” . We can learn from the newly published International Standard “Respiratory Protective Devices (RPD) -Terms, definitions, graphical symbols and units of measurement” the new terms used in the new language. We have also made significant progress in the development of a new RPD Classification Scheme and in the guidance standard on RPD Selection, Use and Maintenance – the latter recently circulated as a Committee Draft.

The PG assigned with the development of supporting test methodology have progressed various test method standards through Committee Drafts though to Draft International Standards and finally the first test method is published titled “RPD-methods of test and test equipment part2 Determination of breathing resistance”.

The scope of SC15 and its performance requirements for both the main standards - Supplied Breathable Gas Devices and Filtering Devices - is clearly focused on the characteristics and demands of the wearer i.e. the Human Being. Therefore, Human Factors are the foundation of the performance requirements; this has been, and continues to be a challenge.

To be ahead means, the RPD-Standards of tomorrow will set new performance goals for the RPD in the future. With the support of ISRP all the experts driving this advanced standardization process will take care about the future of the RPD wearers in this ISO world.