



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control
National Institute for Occupational
Safety and Health - ALOSH
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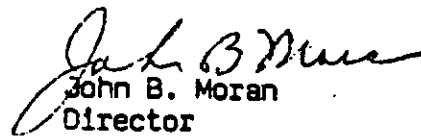
November 6, 1984

NOTICE TO ALL RESPIRATOR MANUFACTURERS WITH MSHA/NIOSH APPROVED RESPIRATORS

Until NIOSH establishes a formal position based upon our review of the information submitted pursuant to the NIOSH Memorandum to Concerned Individuals dated July 24, 1984, titled, "Emergency Escape Breathing Support System" the following policy remains in effect:

The use of any component connected, interfaced, or assembled in combination with MSHA/NIOSH certified self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for use as an emergency escape support breathing system or "Buddy Breather" to allow more than one individual access to the apparatus' life support system(s) either directly or indirectly, automatically voids the applicable certification during its use. Such invalidation continues in effect until the SCBA is returned to the certified status through required maintenance, test checkout, and reassembly as prescribed by the manufacturer's instruction manual and any other applicable user company policy/rules, legislative directives or enforceable regulations applicable to user health and safety.

Respirator manufacturers must not state in advertising or instructional literature, that use of such components is approved by MSHA/NIOSH.


John B. Moran
Director

Division of Safety Research