



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
National Institute for Occupational
Safety and Health (NIOSH)
National Personal Protective
Technology Laboratory (NPPTL)
P.O. Box 18070
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0070
Phone: 412-386-4000
Fax: 412-386-4051
March 1, 2007

LETTER TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Subject: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Announcement of a Public Meeting to be held on March 22, 2007 to Discuss the Proposed Long-Term Field Evaluation (LTFE) Concept

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL), is hosting a meeting for all interested parties to present NIOSH basis for concept and to accept comments. The Long-Term Field Evaluation (LTFE) concept is currently posted on the website <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/ltfe/ltfe.html> and is open on the website for public comments.

The LTFE program for self-contained self-rescuers (SCSRs) for miners was initiated more than 20 years ago by the U.S. Bureau of Mines. The objective for the LTFE program is to obtain data to determine the expected performance characteristics of SCSRs used in the mining industry. LTFE program results based on scientific principles can provide useful information to monitor expected SCSR performance and assess possible degradation due to the physical stresses of in-mine use. Of utmost concern is the successful performance of any SCSR that passes its inspection criteria specified by the manufacturer. It is such apparatus that must be relied upon in an emergency.

The presentation will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 22, 2007. The afternoon will include an open forum panel discussion. An agenda for this meeting is attached.

The meeting will be held on March 22, 2007, and will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel Pittsburgh Airport, 8402 University Blvd, Moon Township, Pennsylvania, 15108. To make hotel reservations, please contact the DoubleTree Hotel Pittsburgh Airport directly at 412-329-1400 or 1-800-222-TREE. There is a free shuttle available from the airport to the hotel.

Please complete the registration form, if you are planning to attend. You may register electronically or download the Adobe pdf version of the registration form and send it by e-mail (kvh7@cdc.gov) or fax (412-386-4051).

If you need further information, or have any questions or concerns, please contact NPPTL
Technology Evaluation Branch, 626 Cochran's Mill Road, PO Box 18070, Pittsburgh, PA 15236,
Telephone 412-386-4084, Fax 412-386-4051, E-mail kvh7@cdc.gov.

Sincerely,

Heinz W. Ahlers
Chief, Technical Evaluation Branch
National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory