



January 15, 2016

LETTER TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Subject: First NIOSH/MSHA Approval for Large-Capacity (Cap 3) Closed-Circuit Escape Respirator

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) have approved the first large-capacity (Cap 3) closed-circuit escape respirator (CCER) for use in underground coal mining, under new standards published in 42 C.F.R. Part 84, Subpart O. Approval number TC-13G-0005 was issued to Ocenco, Inc., on January 4, 2016 for a Cap 3 CCER, Model EBA 75 CCER for Mining. Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. §84.301, manufacturers can continue to manufacture, label, and sell Cap 3 CCERs for mining approved under the former standard in Subpart H until 1 year after this approval date, or until January 4, 2017.

All types of CCERs approved under Subpart H that were manufactured and labeled as NIOSH-approved and sold by April 9, 2015, as well as those units manufactured and labeled as NIOSH-approved and sold during the extended time periods pursuant to § 84.301, may continue to be used as NIOSH-approved respirators until the end of their service life. Please refer to the [Table of Subpart H-approved respirators](#) for a complete list of those respirators and when they can no longer be manufactured and labeled as NIOSH-approved.

Sincerely yours,

David Chirdon
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