



# RESPIRATOR SAFETY

## Toolbox Talk

### WHY IT MATTERS

- Respirators protect workers from inhaling harmful dust, fumes, vapors, and airborne contaminants.
- Improper use or maintenance can lead to serious health risks, including respiratory illness and chemical exposure.

### PPE SELECTION

- Choose the correct respirator for the hazard:
  - N95 or filtering facepiece for dust and particulates.
  - Half-face or full-face respirator for chemical vapors.
  - Powered Air-Purifying Respirator (PAPR) for high-contaminant environments.
- Ensure respirator is NIOSH-approved and fits the job requirements.

### RESPIRATOR INSPECTION

- Check seals, straps, and filters before each use.
- Replace filters and cartridges as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Do not use damaged or expired respirators — tag and remove them.

### RESPIRATOR USE GUIDELINES

- Perform a fit test before initial use and annually thereafter.
- Conduct a user seal check every time you put on the respirator.
- Do not modify respirators or share without proper cleaning.
- Remove facial hair that interferes with the seal.

### STORAGE & MAINTENANCE

- Store respirators in a clean, dry location away from contaminants.
- Clean reusable respirators after each use following manufacturer instructions.
- Keep respirators in a sealed bag or container when not in use.

**OUR RESPIRATOR ONLY WORKS IF IT FITS, IS MAINTAINED, AND USED CORRECTLY — PROTECT YOUR LUNGS EVERY TIME.**