

**Overview of proposed amendments to
Part 8, Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment, and
Part 31, Firefighting
Sections relating to respirator protection**

Health employers requested that the Workers' Compensation Board repeal the current 1993 CSA standard for respirators and replace it with the 2002 edition of that standard. Of particular interest is the 2002 edition's adoption of biennial respirator fit testing.

The proposed regulatory amendments include:

- References to the 1993 edition of the CSA Standard for the selection, use and care of respirators are repealed and replaced with references to the 2002 edition (with the exception of section 8.33 regarding respirator selection).
- Part 8 requirements for annual fit testing revised to detail circumstances in which a fit test must be conducted prior to the one year anniversary of the last fit test.
- Table 8-1 (Respirator Protection Factors) is revised to include an additional type of respirator and to define air purifying respirators as non-powered.
- Requirements added to Part 8 regarding records, maintenance, inspection, and compressed breathing air storage limitations for self-contained breathing apparatus and related air cylinders.
- Requirements added to Part 31 for annual fit testing and circumstances in which a fit test must be conducted prior to the one year anniversary of the last fit test.