



November 27, 2013

## **Scott Safety End User Notification: NIOSH CBRN Testing**

On November 22, Scott and other respirator manufacturers received notification from NIOSH of CBRN testing errors at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC). During a period from July 2012 through October 2013, ECBC utilized concentrations of Chemical Warfare Agents (CWA) that were below those required under NIOSH testing procedures. As a result of these errors, NIOSH and ECBC have temporarily halted all CWA testing until test procedures can be validated. A NIOSH User's Notice will be available at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/> and provides additional background information and next steps from their side.

This issue has impacted all manufacturers who had products tested and/or approved over this 15-month period at ECBC. Both our existing AV-3000 HT facepiece CBRN approvals and NFPA 2013 approval timing are impacted by this testing.

For users who have purchased the AV-3000 HT facepiece (p/n 201215-xx), NIOSH has recommended that the product not be used in applications where CWA protection is required, until NIOSH has completed retesting. Use for protection other than CBRN is not affected.

For customers with open orders for new AV-3000 HT facepieces, Scott has currently halted deliveries of this product while we work to clarify our position with the appropriate regulatory agencies. Scott will not be able to label AV-3000 HT configurations as CBRN approved, per the NIOSH User Notice, until retesting is completed.

This CBRN testing delay is also expected to further delay our approvals of NFPA 2013 Edition SCBA products, including the Air-Pak X3 and AP75. NIOSH is currently working with ECBC to validate all test procedures, with new testing scheduled to commence in January. As a result, NFPA 2013 approvals may not be issued prior to April 2014.

We designed both the AV-3000 HT and NFPA 2013 Air-Pak SCBA products to meet the NIOSH CBRN requirements, and our internal and external testing performed ahead of submissions provided us with a high degree of confidence that the products would pass these tests. The particular tests in question relate only to the respirator's ability to protect against CWA, and do not call into question the efficacy of our products' performance in providing non-CBRN protections.

Needless to say, we are extremely disappointed by this unexpected turn of events, and the delay that it will cause for our customers in realizing the enhanced level of protection provided



with our new products. Scott Safety will be doing everything possible to minimize the impact of these delays on our customers.

Over the coming weeks, we expect to receive further clarification regarding timing and options for product delivery. If you currently have an order in place with Scott for one of the impacted products above, please contact your Scott sales representative, or call Scott Technical Support at 1-800-247-7257.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Emery', written in a cursive style.

Jeff Emery  
Senior Marketing Manager, Fire Services  
Scott Safety