



An Affiliate of
ASTM INTERNATIONAL

October 2, 2017

TO MANUFACTURERS OF RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE DEVICES:

Initiation of Certification Program for Respiratory Equipment for Tactical and Technical Operations

The Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) is pleased to announce the initiation of a certification program for Respiratory Equipment for Tactical and Technical Operations to NFPA 1986-2017, *Standard on Respiratory Protection Equipment for Tactical and Technical Operations*.

I. Initiation of Certification Program for Respiratory Equipment for Technical and Tactical Operations

SEI, in conjunction with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) are ready to begin processing applications for Tactical and Technical Operations Respirator approvals. These applications will be processed in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NIOSH National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) and SEI. Under this MOU, NIOSH/NPPTL and SEI will cooperatively coordinate certification programs to evaluate candidate respirators for compliance to NFPA 1986-2017, *Standard on Respiratory Equipment for Technical and Tactical Operations*.

While the technical requirements of the NFPA 1986-2017 standard are somewhat different than they are for the NFPA 1981-2018 standard, the process and procedures employed in making application(s) for approval to SEI and NIOSH are essentially the same. Upon successful completion of all requirements, a joint NIOSH-SEI certification letter will be issued. Similar to the requirements for joint approval to NFPA 1981-2018, prior to the issuance of a certification to NFPA 1986-2017, identical SCBA configurations shall be approved by NIOSH to the requirements of 42 CFR Part 84 as a pressure demand class, open circuit, entry and escape SCBA.

Further details with regard to the program are as noted below.

II. SEI Fees, Testing Laboratory Fees and Sample Requirements

SEI has established certification fees and testing laboratory fees as well as sample requirements for Tactical and Technical Operations Respirator submittals as noted in Exhibit A. These certification fees, testing laboratory fees and sample requirements will be effective with all submittals to the NFPA 1986-2017 standard.

Please note that SEI has negotiated the attached fees with Intertek for this particular certification program. However, SEI will add a 10% surcharge to the prices listed in the attached fee schedule to the final invoice that you receive from SEI, which is generated when testing is completed.



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III. Application Processing

All certification application(s) shall 1) be submitted concurrently to NIOSH (Records Room) and SEI (Mr. Stephen Sanders) and 2) include a completed Certification Submittal package for each Technical and Tactical Operations respirator model for which certification is requested. Instructions for completing a Certification Submittal package are included in the attached Exhibit A.

Following a review of each application request, SEI will 1) determine the applicable test program and 2) direct manufacturers to forward the required number of samples directly to Intertek at the following address:

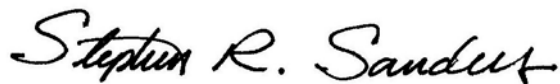
Mr. Rob Simmonds
Intertek
3933 US Route 11
Cortland, NY 13045

Phone: (607) 758-6656; email: robert.simmonds@intertek.com

Your assistance in following these procedures will assist NIOSH and SEI in ensuring an orderly certification process.

We hope this information is helpful to you. Please feel free to call the SEI Office should you have any questions or if we can be of other assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Stephen R. Sanders
Technical Director

cc: Mr. Jeff Peterson, NIOSH/NPPTL
Mr. Bob Stein, NIOSH/NPPTL
Mr. Tom Pouchot, NIOSH/NPPTL
Mr. Charles Wolfe, NIOSH/NPPTL
Mr. Rob Simmonds, Intertek
Mr. Trevor O’Gorman, Intertek
SEI Auditors

EXHIBIT A

Certification Submittal Package

A Certification Submittal Package shall, at a minimum, include an SEI Certification Submittal Form and Product Description for each product model being submitted. Completion of the submittal package serves four primary purposes:

1. The submittal package provides SEI and the SEI Quality Assurance Auditor with a description of new, modified or products to be selected for annual certification.
2. The information provided by the manufacturer in the submittal package confirms to SEI the product design and components.
3. Receipt of the submittal package by the testing laboratory, from SEI, serves as the laboratory's authorization to begin testing the product(s) and allows laboratory personnel to verify that the correct product samples have been received.
4. The return of a signed copy of the submittal form from the testing laboratory provides SEI with a record of the date testing was completed on the product model.

Over the life of the product, subsequent submittal packages shall document that the product model submitted for certification testing is identical to samples **previously** tested, except where Class I model changes have been tested and documented through the submission of additional SEI submittal packages or documented Class II changes have been made. It is therefore necessary that each submittal to SEI include sufficient product description information to uniquely and unambiguously identify the product model in question.

SEI Certification Submittal Form

Each submittal must be identified on the submittal form as either (1) initial certification, (2) annual recertification, (3) Class I change, or (4) Class II change. Finished product manufacturing facilities (assembly) located at a different address (i.e. suppliers or company-owned factories) shall be identified in Section 3 of the submittal form. The SEI Certification Submittal Form shall be signed by the authorized manufacturer representative within the participating company having the authority to authorize expenditures for testing.

Product Description

The product description information shall be provided to SEI through (a) NIOSH CBRN Assembly Matrix, and (b) NIOSH Engineering Drawing Package. Although not required, it would be helpful to receive the following descriptive information in addition to the NIOSH CBRN Assembly Matrix and NIOSH Engineering Drawing Package.

A. Description of Major Components

All major components and materials shall be identified and described. Where possible, include brand name and part number, supplier name and location.

B. Primary Materials

Materials used in the construction of major components shall be identified. Identification shall include trade names, if applicable. All changes shall be reported to SEI for evaluation and possible action.

C. Manufacturing Locations

All locations in which the product model is manufactured or assembled must be identified on the SEI Certification Submittal Form. If major components are manufactured by another company and purchased by the SEI participants, the name and address of the manufacturing facility and contact name shall be identified.

D. NIOSH CBRN Assembly Matrix and Engineering Drawing Package

The NIOSH CBRN Assembly Matrix and Engineering Drawing Package shall be included with the SEI Certification Submittal Form. In the case of annual recertification, the appropriate documents (i.e., submittal form, NIOSH CBRN Assembly Matrix and NIOSH Engineering Drawing Package) shall be prepared prior to the sample selection audit and available to the auditor during the audit for reference and confirmation of product.

E. Confidentiality

All product information received by SEI staff, the SEI Quality Assurance Auditor, or the SEI testing laboratory shall be considered confidential and shall not be released to any third party without written authorization to do so (with the exceptions noted *Section 3: Manufacturer's Agreement* for response to a subpoena, court order or other compulsory process).

Application & Annual Certification Fees

Testing shall be performed annually. When an initial submittal package is submitted to SEI, the Application Fees and Annual Participation Fees (if not already a Participant) are due (*See Section 7: Annual Participation Fees of the SEI Certification Program Manual*). Upon completion of initial testing, Annual Model Certification Fees are due. The following is a schedule of application fees and annual model certification fees that apply to this NFPA Program:

Model Type	Submittal Type	Application Fee	Annual Model Certification Fees
Base Model	Initial	\$250	\$765
	Class I Change	\$120	\$125
	Class II Change	\$120	\$125
Variant Model	Initial	\$120	\$125
	Class I Change	\$120	\$125
	Class II Change	\$120	\$125
Accessory Model	Initial	\$120	\$40
	Class I Change	\$120	\$40
	Class II Change	\$120	\$40

NFPA 1986-2017 Respiratory Protection for Tactical and Technical Operations

A. Definition of Model

Characteristics that should affect the model's ability to meet the performance requirements of the certification standard and therefore require a new model designation:

"TACTICAL AND TECHNICAL OPERATIONS RESPIRATOR MODEL" is the collective term used to identify Respiratory Protection Models from a single manufacturer produced by the same basic manufacturing and quality assurance procedures that are covered by the same certification. A Tactical and Technical Respirator Model is a generic grouping of components and subassemblies resulting in a Tactical and Technical Respirator Model with common functional and/or design characteristics.

Characteristics that should not affect the model's ability to meet the performance requirements of the certification standard and therefore would not require a new model designation:

None

B. Examples of Major Components

As defined by the NIOSH Assembly Matrix.

C. Laboratory Testing Fees/ Attributes & Variables

SEI currently has approved one (1) laboratory that may conduct testing to this standard. The schedule of rates for testing at this laboratory can be used to estimate the total cost of testing for all the models that are to be certified.

NFPA 1986-2017 - Intertek

Test Order	Category A SCBA #1	Category B SCBA #2	Category C SCBA #3	Category D SCBA #4	Category E SCBA #5	Category F Component Test
1	Airflow – Sec. 8.1	Airflow – Sec. 8.1	Airflow – Sec. 8.1	Airflow – Sec. 8.1	Low Power Capacity – Sec. 8.22	Lens Abrasion Section 8.4
Attributes & Variables	Critical	Critical	Critical	Critical	Major B	Major B
Initial Test Fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Annual Test Fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
2	Facepiece Carbon Dioxide Content – Sec. 8.9	Breathing Air Cylinder & Valve Assembly Retention – Sec. 8.18	EOSTI Recognition – Sec. 8.10	Flame – Sec. 8.8	Immersion Leakage – Sec. 8.19	
Attributes & Variables	Minor	Minor	Major B	Critical	Critical	
Initial Test Fees	\$200 (Review)	\$1500	\$1800	\$7000	\$7500	
Annual Test Fees	\$200 (Review)	\$600	\$1100	\$2400	\$2500	
3	Nonelectronic Communications – Sec. 8.7	Cylinder Connections & Accessibility – Sec. 8.20	HUD Visibility – Sec.'s 8.13 through 8.15			
Attributes & Variables	Critical	Major B	Major B			
Initial Test Fees	\$2000	\$400	\$2000			
Annual Test Fees	\$750	\$200	\$1100			
4	Supplementary Voice Communications System – Sec. 8.21	RIC UAC Breathing Cylinder Refill – Sec. 8.16	HUD Low Power Source Visual Alert Signal – Sec. 8.12			
Attributes & Variables	Major B	Major A	Major B			
Initial Test Fees	\$4000	\$2000	\$1650			
Annual Test Fees	\$1900	\$950	\$750			
5	Environmental Temperature – Sec. 8.2	RIC UAC System Fill Rate – Sec. 8.17	HUD Wiring Connection – Sec. 8.11			
Attributes & Variables	Critical	Major B	Major B			
Initial Test Fees	\$2300	\$990	\$1100			
Annual Test Fees	\$1100	\$450	\$525			
6	EBSS Cold Temp. – Sec. 8.23	EBSS Cold Temp. – Sec. 8.23	Vibration – Sec. 8.3			
Attributes & Variables	Major A	Major A	Critical			
Initial Test Fees	\$2200	\$2200	\$3300			
Annual Test Fees	\$1100	\$1100	\$1500			
7	Particulate – Sec. 8.5	Accelerated Corrosion – Sec. 8.4				
Attributes & Variables	Major A	Major B				
Initial Test Fees	\$5000	\$1800				
Annual Test Fees	\$2000	\$785				
Label Evaluation			\$150			
Design Evaluation			\$300			
Total Initial	\$52,390					
Total Annual	\$24,460					

Note: SEI adds a 10% surcharge to all testing when invoiced to the participant