



BSI Standards Publication

# Respiratory protective devices — Selection, use and maintenance

Part 1: Establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme

## National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of ISO/TS 16975-1:2016.

This International technical specification introduces the concept of ISO Protection levels (PLs). The ISO PLs represent the degree of respiratory protection that is expected to be provided to wearers by a class of respiratory protective devices (RPD) when used within an effective RPD programme.

The proposed ISO PLs have been derived from professional judgement based on previous assigned protection factors (APF), their associated nominal protection factors (NPF) and knowledge of differences between laboratory and workplace protection performance of current products.

However, until the proposed ISO PLs have been validated, (when RPD conforming to the requirements of the performance standards are available) they are provided for information only. In the interim period, the assigned protection factors as published by the UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in guidance document HSG53 *Respiratory protective equipment at work- A practical guide* (HSE, 2013) should be used.

Further information on the selection of suitable and adequate RPE can be found on the HSE website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/respiratory-protective-equipment>

Subclause 7.6.4 of this technical specification states that where national or local regulations exist for the breathable gas quality, then these shall be met. Attention is drawn to BS EN 12021 *Respiratory equipment - Compressed gases for breathing apparatus* as a reference standard for breathable gas quality.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PH/4, Respiratory protection.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

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# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

# ISO/TS 16975-1

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## **Respiratory protective devices — Selection, use and maintenance —**

### **Part 1: Establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme**

*Appareils de protection respiratoire — Choix, utilisation et  
entretien —*

*Partie 1: Élaboration et mise en oeuvre d'un programme pour les  
appareils de protection respiratoire*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 94, *Personal safety — Protective clothing and equipment*, Subcommittee SC 15, *Respiratory protective devices*.

ISO 16975 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Respiratory protective devices — Selection, use and maintenance*:

- *Part 1: Establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme* [Technical Specification]
- *Part 2: Condensed guide to establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme* [Technical Specification]
- *Part 3: Fit testing procedures*

## **Introduction**

This part of ISO 16975 contains the essential requirements for establishing and implementing a complete respiratory protective device (RPD) programme for respiratory protective devices that meet the requirements of the performance standards. It contains information on risk assessment, selection procedure, training, use and maintenance.

Informative Annexes provide additional guidance on how to implement such a programme.



# Respiratory protective devices — Selection, use and maintenance —

## Part 1: Establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 16975 specifies detailed information to assist persons responsible for establishing and implementing a programme for respiratory protective devices (RPD) that meet the performance requirements of the performance standards.

This part of ISO 16975 does not apply to RPD programmes for RPD used exclusively under water, for use in aircraft, and medical life support respirators and resuscitators.

**NOTE** The information contained in this part of ISO 16975 can be used to assist in the preparation of national or local regulations; however, this part of ISO 16975 does not supersede national or local regulations.

**WARNING — Failure to select, use and maintain RPD correctly can result in injury, illness or death.**

### 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 16900-1, *Respiratory protective devices — Methods of test and test equipment — Part 1: Determination of inward leakage*

ISO 16972, *Respiratory protective devices — Terms, definitions, graphical symbols and units of measurement*

ISO/TS 16975-2, *Respiratory protective devices — Selection, use and maintenance — Part 2: Condensed guide to establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme*

ISO 16975-3<sup>1)</sup>, *Respiratory protective devices — Selection, use and maintenance — Part 3: Fit testing procedures*

ISO 17420-3, *Respiratory protective devices — Performance requirements — Part 3: Thread connection*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 16972 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **adequate RPD**

RPD ([3.8](#)) capable of reducing the inhalation exposure to an acceptable level

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1) To be published.