



3M's wide selection of filtering facepiece respirators helps you match the respirator to your customer's work environment. All 3M filtering facepiece respirators are approved under NIOSH 42 CFR 84.

Did you know?

You've already heard that scientists are predicting a pandemic influenza outbreak. In fact, flu pandemics occur 3 to 4 times each century. Why? Virus strains mutate quickly but the immune systems of humans can't keep up. As a result, infections may spread quickly around the globe.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), scientists project that a pandemic could affect up to 30 percent of the population—translating into 90 million Americans with the disease and roughly 2.25 million deaths. An outbreak of this severity would almost certainly lead to major economic problems. If everything else held constant, a severe pandemic could lead the U.S. economy to contract by 5.5 percent.*

Today the major questions are when the next pandemic will occur, what strain of the virus will be involved, and how severe the outbreak will be.

*Pandemic Flu and the Potential for U.S. Economic Recession by Trust for America's Health

News you can use.

A business continuity plan (BCP) outlines the steps to help an organization cope, recover and restore partially or completely interrupted critical operating functions after a disaster. It is how an organization prepares for disruptive events that could jeopardize a business' core mission, economic stability, and employees' health.

3M can help with your preparedness planning by giving you a heads-up about the new OSHA guidelines outlined at www.osha.gov/Publications/influenza_pandemic.html.

A head start on planning will help you prepare for incidents such as pandemic illnesses. It will also help you plan for events such as facility fires and hazardous material spills or regional disasters like storms or earthquakes.

How you can help.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) recommend the use of personal protection equipment (PPE) to help prevent direct contact with the influenza virus including NIOSH certified N95 particulate respirators as well as gloves, gowns and eye protection.

3M will set up time to help you walk through the various N95 respirator options appropriate for your workplace. As of April 24, 2006, WHO's guidance states that particulate respirators should be used when working in direct contact with a suspected or confirmed infected person. Although filtering facepiece respirators help reduce exposures of the wearer to airborne biological contaminants, they do not fully eliminate the risk of disease, illness, or death.

3M supplies a wide variety of products and services including specialized respirators for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN) applications and respirators for cleanup. Contact your 3M Sales Representative for more ideas and information.

Next issue:

FDA Clears 3M Respirators for Public Health Medical Emergencies

3M Occupational Health & Environmental Safety Division Update is published as part of our effort to keep you informed of our progress toward 3M's production build-up objectives to meet the global demand for our respirator products—and the continuing challenges we all face. It's our belief that the more you understand about this worldwide, volatile market-driven situation, the better you will be able to prepare.

For more information call 1-800-328-1667 and ask for your 3M Sales Representative.

