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3M LAUNCHES NEW PARTICULATE FILTER FOR TOUGH WORK ENVIRONMENTS
Product Design Reduces Breathing Resistance and Enhances Durability

St. Paul, MN, May 4, 2009: 3M expands its reusable respirator product line with the new advanced particulate 2200 Series filters developed for physically strenuous work areas and challenging environments. These new filters require fewer layers and possess abrasion-resistant netting.

“3M invented the disc filter category over 15 years ago and these new particulate filters bring this filtration technology to a new level,” said Debarati Sen, 3M global elastomeric facepiece respirator business manager. “We’ve learned from customers that these filters may last twice as long as our existing filters, which translates into savings for our customers.”

This new particulate filter technology captures particles in a three-layer filtration design versus the traditional five layers. The reduced number of layers enables easier breathing while offering the same level of filtration performance.

This particulate filter design also incorporates a new netting construction technology. This abrasion-resistant netting enhances durability that can mean a longer-lasting filter.

Additional Information

To stay informed about 3M’s full line of elastomeric facepiece respirator products, please visit www.3M.com/OccSafety.

Visit www.3M.com/OccSafety/PressBox for the OccSafety Press Box for the latest press releases and downloadable imagery.

About 3M Occupational Health and Environmental Safety Division

3M OH&ES Division is a global leader in respiratory, hearing, fall protection and detection and environmental products. A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M's core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$24 billion in sales, 3M employs 79,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 60 countries. For more information, visit www.3M.com.