

## Surgical Mask Use with Loose Fitting Headgear

### Description

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance on the use of 3M loose fitting powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) or supplied air facepieces, hoods, and helmets with tested and certified medical/surgical masks. Note that this does not include wearing filtering facepiece or reusable respirators – respirators are not tested in this configuration and should not be worn under any PAPR or supplied air headtops.

Loose fitting headtops are designed to be used with a breathing tube and a PAPR or supplied air assembly to form a NIOSH, CE or other tested and approved respiratory protection system. These types of headtops form a partial seal with the wearer through a neck collar, inner shroud, or an elasticized faceseal that extends along the jawline and below the chin.

3M has not performed specific testing on our loose fitting headtops to determine if surgical masks or their straps presence in the sealing area affects the respiratory performance. Because of the variability in surgical mask size, thickness and placement of straps, 3M does not recommend the use of surgical masks with loose fitting facepieces, hoods and helmets with an elasticized faceseal.

### Headtop Models\* Not Recommended for use with Medical/Surgical Masks

S-103 (all sizes)
S-133 (all sizes)
S-333 (all sizes)
S-403 (all sizes)
S-433 (all sizes)
S-533 (all sizes)
BE-10 (all sizes)
BE-12 (all sizes)
M-100 Series
M-200 Series
M-300 Series
3M Scott FH1
3M Scott FH2
3M Scott FH21

However, for hoods and helmets with an inner neck collar or inner shroud that form a partial seal in the neck region, a surgical mask could be worn as long as it does not extend into the neck sealing area of the hood. 3M headtops that have these seal designs are listed below. This is consistent with our guidance for facial hair and loose fitting facepieces, hoods and helmets – see 3M TechnicalData Bulletin #218 (or any corresponding regional 3M guidance).

## Headgear Models Compatible with Surgical Masks

Model Number and Description	Replacement Hood Model Number
S-655 Hood assembly with inner neck collar and premium head suspension	S-605
S-657 Hood assembly with inner shroud and premium head suspension	S-607
S-757 Painters hood assembly with inner shroud and premium head suspension	S-707
S-855 and S-855E Hood assembly with sealed seams, inner neck collar and premium head suspension	S-805
S-857 Hood assembly with sealed seams, inner shroud and premium head suspension	S-807
M-405 Respiratory helmet assembly with inner neck collar, standard visor and shroud	N/A
M-407 Respiratory helmet assembly with inner neck collar, premium visor and flame resistant shroud	N/A
H-412 Hood assembly with inner neck collar and hard hat suspension	H-410**
H-422 Hood assembly with inner shroud and hard hat suspension	H-420**
H-611 Sealed seam hood assembly with inner neck collar and H-213 head suspension	H-610
H-612 Sealed seam hood assembly with inner neck collar and hard hat suspension	H-610**

\*Some models are not available in all regions of the world

\*\*These H-series replacement hoods can be combined with an H-213 head suspension to create a soft head-top assembly. Specific breathing tubes or adapters may be required, always check the NIOSH approval configuration for your system.

**NOTE 1 – Reaching inside headtops to reposition or adjust the surgical mask during use may potentially be a contamination risk and could affect the respiratory protection provided by the PAPR or supplied air system.**

**NOTE 2 – S-657/607, M-405, H-412/410, H-422/420, H-611/610 and H-612/610 are not available in Europe/are not CE approved.**

**Always read and follow product specific user instructions.**

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