

User Advisory Notice

Products:

3M™ Versaflo™ TR-6590N Multi-Gas/HE Cartridge

This notice does not affect respiratory protection provided by this product. Please review carefully.

As part of 3M Personal Safety Division’s ongoing commitment to delivering high quality safety equipment, we are notifying our customers of the following information related to certain 3M™ Versaflo™ TR-6590N Multi-Gas/HE Cartridge in your possession or control. The TR-6590N cartridges are used with the 3M™ TR-600 and TR-800 Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPRs).

| Product Description | Contents | 3M ID | Manufacturing Dates |
|---|---|------------|-----------------------|
| 3M™ Versaflo™ TR-6590N Multi-Gas/HE Cartridge |  | 7100035844 | Currently Unavailable |

In recent testing, we discovered a potential for some TR-6590N cartridges not to meet the 42 CFR Part 84.179 Silica dust loading test - PAPR Series HE Filtration requirements. This test requires the PAPR system to run for a period of four hours in a test chamber while exposed to a high level of silica dust (50 – 60 mg/m3). The results from recent tests showed lower TR-6590N cartridge particulate loading performance than in the past. This means users of the TR-6590N cartridge may potentially see a reduced particulate filter service life when using an affected cartridge in a high particulate loading environment. This does not affect the particulate filtration performance of the TR-6590N, which continues to provide approved HEPA filtration efficiency performance.

The potential for reduced service life based on filter loading does not put users at risk for exposure. All 3M™ Versaflo™ Powered Air Purifying Respirators come equipped with a filter loading/low air flow alarm. This alarm helps alert the user to service the system when the particulate loading exceeds the pressure drop capacity of the system, which could result in lower protection. As stated in 3M’s User Instructions, users must immediately leave the work area and the filter should be changed when the filter loading/low air flow alarm activates.

3M remains committed to providing quality products and services to our customers. We apologize for any inconvenience that this situation may cause you. We appreciate your continued support of 3M Personal Safety products and services.

We are working urgently to correct this issue. In the meantime, TR-6590N cartridges may have limited availability. If appropriate, please select from other products that may suit your needs. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your continued support.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your local 3M representative or 3M Technical Support at 1-800-243-4630.

Sincerely

3M Personal Safety Division

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I know if I have affected product?

A: Unfortunately, we are unable to provide affected lot codes at this time. Due to the construction of the cartridge, there is no visual inspection indicator to determine if you have affected product. The affected product does not put users at risk for exposure due to the filter loading/low flow alarm on the TR-600 and TR-800 PAPR systems; however, users may see faster changeout times based on their particular filter loading environment.

Q: Does this affect other products not listed?

A: The only affected cartridge used with the NIOSH approved 3M™ Versaflo™ Powered Air Purifying Respirator is the TR-6590N. All other compatible cartridges do not exhibit this issue.

Q: What if I used an affected product? Did I receive protection?

A: The reduced particulate loading does not affect the HEPA filtration efficiency of the TR-6590N cartridge. You may notice shorter service-life times before the PAPR system alerts you with the filter loading/low flow alarm. When alerted, as directed in 3M's User Instructions, the user should safely exit the hazardous area and service the system.

Q: When will you resume production?

A: We expect limited availability as we urgently work to investigate this issue. We hope to resolve the issue promptly but, at this time, we are unable to provide an estimate of when normal production may resume.

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