



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.

© The British Standards Institution 2017.  
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2017

ISBN 978 0 580 78293 0  
ICS 13.340.30

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

This Published Document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 March 2017.

## Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

| Date | Text affected |
|------|---------------|
|------|---------------|

---