



# Central Ontario NETWORK BULLETIN

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## Respirator Protection

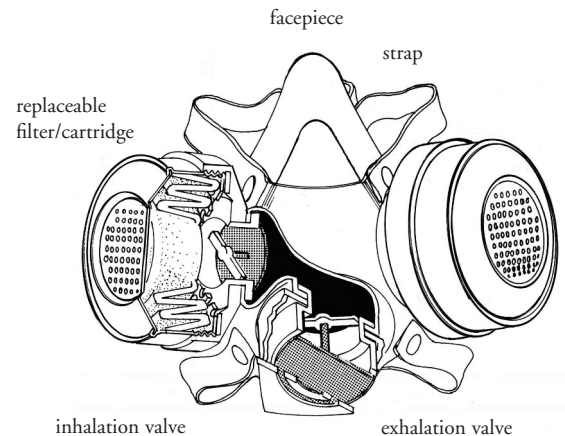
In the course of their work, construction workers are often exposed to respiratory hazards such as dusts, gases, fumes, mists, and vapours.

Dusts are one of the common respiratory hazards in construction. Dust particles are usually many times larger than fume particles. Dusts are generated by crushing, grinding, sanding, cutting, and demolition work.

Two kinds of hazardous dusts are often present in construction: fibrous dust from insulation materials (e.g., asbestos, mineral wool, and glass fibre) and non-fibrous silica dust from sandblasting, concrete cutting, or rock drilling.

In some cases, careful selection of materials and safe work practices—which include using personal protective equipment such as respirators—can eliminate respiratory hazards.

Workers must be trained to properly fit, use, and maintain a respirator (e.g., an N95 dust mask). Visit [www.ihsa.ca](http://www.ihsa.ca) for more information about respiratory hazards and how to control them.



### Half-face mask

This style is widely used as an air-purifying respirator with one or more filters or cartridges attached to the facepiece. The silicone, thermoplastic, or rubber facepiece covers the mouth and nose, cups under the chin, and is usually held in place by two straps. It generally provides better protection than quarter-face masks because the chin cup affords a more secure fit.

## Locates

The Construction Regulation states that

- (a) the employer excavating shall ensure that all gas, electrical, and other services in and near the area to be excavated are located and marked;
- (b) the employer and worker locating and marking the services shall ensure that they are accurately located and marked.

### UTILITY SERVICE LOCATES

Ontario One Call 1-800-400-225 (gas, water, sewer, telephone/cable)

#### Hydro

Kitchener: (519) 745-4771

Cambridge: (519) 621-3530

Waterloo: (519) 886-5090

Ontario One Call can usually provide you with your local utility numbers. However, they may not have information for all utilities. You must contact any utility that is not covered by Ontario One Call.

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