



Fit Testing

Creating Safer Work Environments™



CONNNEY
SAFETY
A DIVISION OF WESCO DISTRIBUTION, INC.

Required for Workers Wearing Respiratory Protection

If your facility's air quality has been tested and respiratory protection is needed, it is an OSHA requirement that employees receive fit testing before wearing the respirator on the job, as well as on an annual basis.

In addition, fit tests should be performed whenever a different size, style, model,

or make of respirator is used or when any facial changes occur that could affect fit, such as significant weight fluctuation or dental work.

Conney Safety provides Fit Testing Services that will help ensure your facility meets these requirements.



Qualitative Fit Test (QLFT)

A qualitative fit test (QLFT) may only be used to fit test negative-pressure, air-purifying respirators, as long as they'll only be used in atmospheres where the hazard is at less than 10 times the permissible exposure limit (PEL).

QLFT is pass/fail and relies on the user's senses using one of four OSHA-accepted test agents:

- Saccharin (sweet taste); can test respirators with a particulate filter of any class.
- Bitrex® (bitter taste); can also test respirators with particulate filters of any class.
- Irritant smoke (involuntary cough reflex); only for testing respirators with level 100 particulate filters.



Quantitative Fit Test (QNFT)

A quantitative fit test (QNFT) can be used to fit test any tight-fitting respirator. It involves using an instrument to measure leakage around the face seal and produces a numerical result called a "fit factor."

There are three OSHA-accepted QNFT test protocols, including Controlled Negative Pressure (CNP), which we use when performing our QNFTs.

Below is some information on our QNFT process and how we measure for fit:

- CNP uses a test that creates a vacuum by temporarily cutting off air.
- QNFTs use similar exercises as QLFTs, plus an additional test where the subject breaks the seal and refits the respirator to the face.
- A fit factor of at least 100 is required for half-mask respirators and a minimum fit factor of 500 for a full face piece negative-pressure respirator.



Also Available:



Medical Evaluations

Before a fit test is performed, the employer must have a medical evaluation. Only healthcare professionals who are licensed, certified, or registered by the state or certified agencies can perform these evaluations. The cost and time for obtaining a medical evaluation is at the employer's expense.

Conney Safety offers OSHA compliant online medical evaluations at a low cost of \$29.00. With this option, there's no need to send employees to an expensive medical facility for evaluation. Access the evaluation information at <https://www.conney.com/pages/TRAINING> and then go to "Online Self-Evaluations"

Quotes for Fit Testing Services are based on number of individuals being tested. For more information on these services, contact our Certified Safety Professionals toll-free at 800-462-1947 or safetysupport@conney.com.

