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| Task / Process / Activity Description: | Fit testing face masks to avoid transmission during the coronavirus outbreak | Start Date | 04 th June 2020 |
| | | Review Date | Due to the pace of the potential spread of Covid-19 this document will be updated if future guidance is available. |
| Assessors Name: | Ian Scott – Regional SHE Manager | Risk Assessment Approved By Branch Managers: | Branch: |
| Assessors Signature: |  | | Print Name: |
| | | | Signature: |

Notes:

This assessment has been written following HSE guidance on Fit testing face masks to avoid transmission during the coronavirus outbreak and Government guidance on social distancing.

Any employee showing symptoms or self-isolating will not undertake the test.
Throughout the operation do not touch your eyes nose or mouth if hands have been in contact with surfaces / equipment

| Hazard (Something with the potential to cause harm) | Hazard Cause (How will the hazard be realised) | Hazard Effect (The potential injury sustained) | Who Can Be Harmed <small>Employee = E Contractor = C Visitor = V Public = P</small> | Risk Level | Mandatory Control Measures | Residual Risk Level | Additional Requirements <small>e.g. Monitoring, Training, Advice to Others etc.</small> |
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| COVID – 19 | Undertaking mask fit testing where COVID-19 may be present | Contracting COVID – 19 | E | H | Wherever possible the fit test is to be undertaken out-side or in a well ventilated area. This must provide a minimum distance of 2M between employee and fit tester | L | Operatives with an existing respiratory, low immune system or underlying health issues which designate them as vulnerable will be exempt from attending the test. |
| | | | | | Fit testing to be carried out on a one to one basis | | |
| | | | | | Before any testing is undertaken employee to confirm they are not suffering any symptoms of COVID-19. Including loss of taste/ smell | | |

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| COVID – 19 | Undertaking mask fit testing where COVID-19 may be present | Contracting COVID – 19 | E | H | <p>Both the fit tester and those being fit tested must wash their hands and wear gloves before and after the test only removing them once outside the test area.</p> <p>The hood and nebuliser containing the taste test solution (A) will be placed close to the employee</p> <p>The fit tester is to wear surgical type face mask during test, this will provide protection to the fit tester and employee during the taste test part of the qualitative mask fit test together with the cleaning of the hood and equipment between individual employee tests.</p> <p>Taste test When undertaking the taste test and to maintain social distancing the fit tester will demonstrate to the employee how the nebuliser is held and asks the employee to place the nebuliser close to their mouth and with their mouth open squeeze the bulb releasing the spray into their mouth, repeat this until the employee can taste the solution. The employee then places the nebuliser back in its original location. The fit tester keeps a mental note of the amount of sprays to establish the correct amount of concentrate to be used during the test</p> | L | <p>Where issued for Ops with beards, the approved alternative RPE will meet the requirements for mask and eye protection.</p> |

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| COVID – 19 | Undertaking mask fit testing where COVID-19 may be present | Contracting COVID – 19 | E | H | <p>The employee will be provided with a laminated copy of the HSE poster C100 03/2020 Using disposable respirators. (or guidance provided with the individual mask type)</p> <p>The employee is to use the mask provided by their branch. Open the packaging on the face mask and don mask in the manner described within the documentation provided and as directed by the tester</p> <p>Fit-tester can read guidance and issue instructions verbally from the guidance as an alternative if needed and where necessary, this can be carried out at a social distance of 2M</p> <p>Those being fitted Must keep their respirators on throughout the test and only remove it when the break seal part of the test is undertaken and then once the test is complete, provided they can keep a social distance from the fit tester (2M), this will minimise the risk to the fit tester</p> <p>Those being fit tested with non-disposable masks should clean the mask themselves before and immediately after the test using a suitable disinfectant cleaning wipe (check with manufacturer to avoid damaging the mask)</p> <p>Test facepieces that cannot be adequately disinfected (e.g. disposable half masks) should not be used by more than one individual</p> <p>The employee then dons the hood and places hands by their sides</p> | L | |

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|--|--|---|-------------------|------------|---|---------------------|---|
| COVID – 19 | Undertaking mask fit testing where COVID-19 may be present | Contracting COVID – 19 | E | H | <p>The fit tester approaches the employee and places the nebuliser into the hole at the front of the hood and whilst holding the hood continues the 7 exercises which forms the test as normal</p> <p>When the final break seal part of the test is being carried out the tester is to step back to a social distance of 2M. The employee is then asked to remove the mask from the chin and confirm that the solution can be tasted.</p> <p>If the employee can taste the solution at any other time during the test the fit tester is to step back to a social distance of 2M, before asking the employee to remove the hood and mask. After the employee has refitted the mask the hood is replaced, and the test can be repeated</p> <p>Once the test is complete the hood can then be removed and placed back to where it was stored originally</p> <p>Employee to keep their mask on until they sign the face fit test documentation and leave the area. This is to be completed using the individuals own pen at the end of the test</p> <p>Fit testers undertake the cleaning of the tubes, hoods etc after each test. Once the last employee is tested the fit tester removes their gloves by turning them inside out and washing hands for 20 seconds</p> | L | |

Additional Information: