

# NIOSH Conformity Assessment Letter to Manufacturers

NIOSH CA 2019-1014  
March 2019

Issue Affecting Gas and Vapor Testing for NIOSH Respirator Approvals

SUPERSEDED



**Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention**  
National Institute for Occupational  
Safety and Health

**Subject: Issue Affecting Gas and Vapor Testing for NIOSH Respirator Approvals**

On February 5, 2019, NIOSH Safety Office notified the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory that the Pittsburgh Gas and Vapor Laboratory was placed on a safety stand-down due to fume hood airflow issues. An external calibration service contracted by the Safety Office determined that flow measurements of all the fume hoods in the Gas and Vapor Laboratory were higher than acceptable limits. Attempts by Facility Maintenance to adjust the flows of the fume hoods into an acceptable range and balance the pressure in the labs have been unsuccessful. Should a release occur during a test operation, the operators and other occupants of the building would be at an unacceptable risk of exposure.

All Gas and Vapor operations have ceased while NIOSH Facility Maintenance personnel and contractor ventilation/HVAC experts work to correct the issue. NIOSH will inform stakeholders when the laboratory becomes operational.

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