

# Face Fit Testing

## Tailored respiratory protection

The purpose of wearing respiratory equipment is to guarantee that the user is optimally protected. When “fit testing” a user together with a specific type of mask, one eliminates any guesswork in terms of how well a mask is sealed against the user’s face.

## What is a Face Fit Test?

- A quantitative fitting test that uses aerosols.
- During the test, the concentration of a substance in the environment and its concentration within the mask is measured.
- By using this quantitative Fit Test method, the fit of the respiratory equipment is checked for each employee.
- During a Fit Test one must approximate the real situation as closely as possible and the test subject will be supervised as he or she runs through a specific protocol.
- A test lasts 20 minutes on average and must be performed standing up.

## Fit Test protocol

- A protocol consists of various exercises, such as moving one’s head left to right, reading out loud, moving one’s head up and down, bending forward and back up again and shaking one’s head.
- During this test the number of particles contained in the mask and in the environment is measured. This measurement is used to calculate the personal Fit Factor.

## Equipment

Portacount 8038 - This device performs a highly accurate measurement of the particles contained in and outside of the mask. The outcome of the measurement is what we refer to as the personal protection factor (the Fit Factor).

## Performing the test

Qualified Total Safety staff have been trained in how the Portacount works and how to use it.

## Conditions

- Anybody taking the test must be well-shaved.
- One may not smoke before the test.
- Should a person’s body weight change by 10% or more, the test must be performed again (as the fit of the mask could be affected).
- It is also important that the test is performed using the PPEs that are used at work. For example, when wearing a helmet it could mean that the user has to reposition his or her mask.





Would you like to have personally tailored respiratory equipment and receive further information about our Face Fit Testing service?

You can reach us using the contact details below to get an obligation-free quote.

## Registration

- The measuring equipment that we use is controlled by dedicated software, which means that the results are immediately stored in the associated database.
- After each test is successfully completed, the user receives a test certificate.
- The test should be repeated once a year. This is not yet compulsory (with the exception of the UK), and so the customer can determine how often the test must be taken.

## On-site & off-shore services

Total Safety offers an on-site and off-shore service so as to perform your Face Fit Testing in accordance with the applicable regulations. Our safety experts offer a professional service that is in accordance with the guidelines of the manufacturers.

## Face Fit Testing on-site

- If at least 4 people require it, we can provide you with this additional on-site service.
- Sufficient space must be made available so that the tests can be safely performed.
- It can be useful to provide a mirror, so that the user can check whether the mask is well-positioned on his or her face (users frequently position a mask improperly on their face).

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See what a difference Total Safety can make to your safety, operational and financial performance. Our mission is to ensure the safe Wellbeing of Workers Worldwide (W<sup>3</sup>). For more information, visit [TotalSafety.net](http://TotalSafety.net) or e-mail us at [info-be@totalsafety.com](mailto:info-be@totalsafety.com).