
Respiratory protective devices — Vocabulary and graphical symbols

*Appareils de protection respiratoire — Vocabulaire et symboles
graphiques*

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

[ISO 16972:2020](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020)

[https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-
a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020)



iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

ISO 16972:2020

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>



COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO 2020

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

Contents

	Page
Foreword	iv
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms related to respiratory protective devices	1
4 Terms related to human factors	25
5 Graphical symbols for use on respiratory protective devices	31
Bibliography	32
Index	33

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

[ISO 16972:2020](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 94, *Personal safety — Personal protective equipment*, Subcommittee SC 15, *Respiratory protective devices*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 79, *Respiratory protective devices*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16972:2010), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared with the previous edition are as follows:

- the terms used in the field of respiratory protective devices (RPD) have been updated;
- Clause 5, “Units of measurement”, has been deleted;
- Annex A, “Terms and definitions referring to respiratory protective devices in current national standards, regulations or other national contexts”, has been deleted;
- Annex B, “Abbreviations used”, has been deleted.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Respiratory protective devices — Vocabulary and graphical symbols

1 Scope

This document defines terms and specifies units of measurement for respiratory protective devices (RPDs), excluding diving apparatus. It indicates graphical symbols that can be required on RPDs, parts of RPD or instruction manuals in order to instruct the person(s) using the RPD as to its operation.

NOTE Terms and definitions for diving apparatus are given in EN 250.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms related to respiratory protective devices

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

abrasive blasting respiratory protective device

breathing apparatus (3.32) incorporating a protective *hood* (3.115) or a *blouse* (3.23) fitted with an *impact resistant* (3.119) *visor* (3.252)

Note 1 to entry: *Breathable air* (3.28) is supplied to the *wearer* (3.257) from a source of air not carried by the wearer.

3.2

accessory

item, or items, that are attached to the *respiratory protective device (RPD)* (3.203) that are not necessary for the RPD to meet the requirements of the RPD performance standard and do not compromise its protection

3.3

adequacy assessment

selection method identifying the *respiratory protective device* (3.203) is able to reduce the *wearer's* (3.257) inhalation exposure to acceptable levels

3.4

adequate respiratory protective device

adequate RPD

RPD (3.203) capable of reducing the inhalation exposure to an acceptable level

3.5

aerodynamic diameter

diameter of a unit density sphere having the same settling velocity as the *particle* (3.170) in question

3.6

aerosol

suspension of solid, liquid, or solid and liquid *particles* (3.170) in a gaseous medium, having a negligible falling velocity (generally considered to be less than 0,25 m/s)

3.7

aerosol penetration

ability of *particles* (3.170) to pass through a particle-filtering material

3.8

air flow resistance

pressure difference between upstream and downstream locations caused by the flow of air through the parts and components of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) such as an *exhalation valve* (3.79), *inhalation valve* (3.120), *filter(s)* (3.86), and *tube* (3.245), etc.

3.9

air supply hose

fresh air supply hose

hose (3.116) for the supply of air at about atmospheric pressure

3.10

ambient air bypass

means to enable the *wearer* (3.257) to breathe the *ambient atmosphere* (3.12) before entering and after leaving a *hazardous atmosphere* (3.108)

3.11

ambient air system

device used to deliver ambient air at a *low pressure* (3.134) directly to a *breathable gas* (3.29) *respiratory protective device* (3.203) (manually or power assisted)

3.12

ambient atmosphere

air surrounding the *wearer* (3.257)

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

3.13

ambient concentration

concentration of a compound in the air surrounding the *wearer* (3.257)

ISO 16972:2020

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69cab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>

3.14

ambient laboratory conditions

atmosphere where the temperature is between 16 °C and 32 °C and the relative humidity is between 20 % and 80 %

3.15

apertometer

extended hemispherical dome for measuring the angular area of the *field of vision* (3.85) [*peripheral isopter* (3.176)] of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) when mounted on a *respiratory protective device headform* (3.204)

3.16

as received

not preconditioned or modified to carry out a test

3.17

assigned protection factor

APF

anticipated level of respiratory protection that would be provided by a properly functioning *respiratory protective device* (RPD) (3.203) or class of RPD within an effective *RPD programme* (3.207)

3.18

assisted filtering respiratory protective device

assisted filtering RPD

filtering RPD (3.90) where *breathable gas* (3.29) is actively supplied to the *wearer* (3.257) by the *RPD* (3.203)

3.19**averaged interactive flow rate**

interactive flow rate (3.126) averaged over 10 consecutive *breathing cycles* (3.34) of the *breathing machine* (3.38)

3.20**averaged maximum interactive flow rate**

average of the highest *flow rate* (3.92) within each *breathing cycle* (3.34) of 10 consecutive breathing cycles of the *breathing machine* (3.38)

3.21**averaged minimum interactive flow rate**

average of the lowest *flow rate* (3.92) within each *breathing cycle* (3.34) of 10 consecutive breathing cycles of the *breathing machine* (3.38)

3.22**averaged peak interactive flow rate**

average of the maximum peak *flow rate* (3.92) within each *breathing cycle* (3.34) of 10 consecutive breathing cycles of the *breathing machine* (3.38)

3.23**blouse**

garment, used as a *facepiece* (3.83), that covers the head and upper part of the body to the waist and wrists and to which air is supplied

3.24**body harness**

means to enable certain components of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) to be worn on the body

3.25**body temperature pressure saturated****BTPS**

standard condition for the expression of *ventilation* (4.20) parameters

Note 1 to entry: Body temperature (37 °C), atmospheric pressure 101,3 kPa and water vapour pressure (6,27 kPa) in saturated air.

3.26**breakthrough concentration**

concentration of test *gas* (3.97) in effluent air at which a *gas filter* (3.98) undergoing a *gas capacity* (3.44) test is deemed exhausted

3.27**breakthrough time**

t_{br}

time taken from the start of the test until the test *gas* (3.97) and specified reaction products are detected at the specified *breakthrough concentration* (3.26) at the downstream side of the *filter* (3.86) under test

3.28**breathable air**

air of a quality that makes it suitable for safe respiration

Note 1 to entry: For compressed air for *breathing apparatus* (3.32), see EN 12021:2014.

3.29**breathable gas**

mixture of *gases* (3.97) that is suitable for respiration without adverse effects to health

3.30

breathable gas cylinder

integral part of the *respiratory protective device* (3.203) that contains the *breathable gas* (3.29) supply

3.31

breathable gas quality

composition of a *breathable gas* (3.29) as defined in relevant standards

3.32

breathing apparatus

device that enables the *wearer* (3.257) to breathe independently of the *ambient atmosphere* (3.12)

3.33

breathing bag

component of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) that compensates for variations in the *breathable gas* (3.29) supply or demand and provides for peak inhalation flow requirements

3.34

breathing cycle

respiratory period comprising an inhalation and an exhalation phase

3.35

breathing frequency

number of *breathing cycles* (3.34) taken in a minute

Note 1 to entry: It is expressed in breaths per minute.

ITEH STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

3.36

breathing gas regeneration

process whereby a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) absorbs carbon dioxide from exhaled *gas* (3.97), delivers oxygen, and controls the water vapour and temperature of gas to be rebreathed

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>

3.37

breathing hose

<low pressure> flexible *hose* (3.116) connected to the *facepiece* (3.83) through which *breathable gas* (3.29) enters at atmospheric pressure or at a pressure slightly above or below

3.38

breathing machine

ventilation machine that simulates respiratory *ventilation* (4.20) using waveforms, which can be sinusoidal or representative of the *breathing cycle* (3.34)

Note 1 to entry: See also *metabolic simulator* (3.149).

3.39

breathing machine assembly

breathing machine (3.38) plus all the connecting *tubes* (3.245), control valves and other necessary hardware leading to the *trachea tube assembly* (3.244)

3.40

breathing peak resistance

maximum differential pressure of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) during inhalation (inhalation peak resistance) or exhalation (exhalation peak resistance)

3.41

breathing resistance

pressure differential between the upstream and downstream location caused by a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) to the flow of *breathable gas* (3.29) during inhalation (inhalation resistance) or exhalation (exhalation resistance)

3.42**breath-responsive**

actively or passively responsive following the *wearer's* (3.257) demand for air

3.43**bypass valve**

component part of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) that is furnished as an emergency manual valve to supply necessary *breathable gas* (3.29) when the ordinary supply path is out of order

3.44**capacity**

volume of available *breathable gas* (3.29) of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203)

3.45**carbon dioxide concentration limits****CO₂ concentration limits**

maximum allowed concentration of carbon dioxide within *inhaled breathable gas* (3.121)

3.46**char length**

length of brittle residue found when a fabric or material is exposed to thermal energy

3.47**checking device**

means to enable the *wearer* (3.257) to verify, before use or periodically during use, that the *manufacturer's minimum design conditions* (3.137) are met

3.48**class Sxxxx respiratory protective device****class Sxxxx RPD**

supplied breathable gas RPD (3.236), where Sxxxx equals the amount of *breathable gas* (3.29) available for respiration in litres

3.49**cleaning/disinfection resistance**

ability of the device to withstand the cleaning and disinfection processes defined by the manufacturer

3.50**combined filter**

filter (3.86) intended to remove dispersed solid and/or liquid *particles* (3.170) and specified *gases* (3.97) and *vapours* (3.251) from the flow of air passing through it

3.51**combined respiratory protective device****combined RPD**

RPD (3.203) that is capable of operating in either a filtering or *breathable gas* (3.29) supply mode

3.52**compatibility**

ability of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) to be used in conjunction with another item of personal protective equipment (PPE)

3.53**competent fit-test operator**

person with suitable and sufficient experience and with practical and theoretical knowledge of fit-test methods who conducts the fit-testing procedures

3.54**competent person**

person with suitable and sufficient experience and with practical and theoretical knowledge of the elements of a *respiratory protective device programme* (3.207) for which (s)he is responsible

3.55

compressed air filter

filter (3.86) intended to remove dispersed solid and/or liquid *particles* (3.170) and specified *gases* (3.97) and *vapours* (3.251) from compressed air passing through it

3.56

compressed air line breathing apparatus

device that is not self-contained and in which the *facepiece* (3.83) is supplied with *breathable air* (3.28) from a source of compressed air

3.57

compressed air supply tube

tube (3.245) that delivers *breathable air* (3.28) at a maximum pressure of 10 bar from a source of compressed air

3.58

confined space

area with limited access, as described in national regulations, which requires special considerations for entry

3.59

contaminant

undesirable solid, liquid or gaseous substance in the air

3.60

continuous control flow valve

control valve that provides the *wearer* (3.257) of a *supplied breathable gas respiratory protective device* (3.236) with *breathable gas* (3.29) and allows the wearer to regulate a continuous air flow within prescribed limits

3.61

count median diameter

CMD

particle size of a particle distribution for which one-half the total number of *particles* (3.170) are larger and one-half are smaller

STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

ISO 16972:2020

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>

3.62

dead space

<technical> space in which exhaled *gas* (3.97) has not been purged and is subject to being rebreathed

3.63

dead space

<anatomical> conducting regions of the pulmonary airways that do not contain *alveoli* (4.7) and, therefore, where no *gas* (3.97) exchange occurs

Note 1 to entry: These areas include the nose, mouth, trachea, large bronchia and the lower branching airways. This volume is typically 150 ml in a male of average size.

3.64

dead space

<physiological> sum of all anatomical *dead space* (3.63) as well as under-perfused (reduced blood flow) *alveoli* (4.7) that are not participating in *gas* (3.97) exchange

Note 1 to entry: The volume of the physiological dead space can vary with the degree of *ventilation* (4.20). Thus, the physiological dead space is the fraction of the *tidal volume* (3.240) that does not participate in gas exchange in the lungs.

3.65**demand type with positive pressure**

type of *respiratory protective device* (3.203) that is fitted with a *demand valve* (3.67), is governed by the breathing action of the lungs, and that actuates at a *positive pressure* (3.179) in the *facepiece* (3.83) under conditions defined in relevant standards

3.66**demand type without positive pressure**

type of *respiratory protective device* (3.203) that is fitted with a *demand valve* (3.67), is governed by the breathing action of the lungs, and that actuates at a *negative pressure* (3.161) during inhalation in the *facepiece* (3.83)

3.67**demand valve**

valve that is governed by the breathing action of lungs and that supplies *breathable gas* (3.29) on demand

3.68**desorption**

process in which one substance (the filter medium) releases an absorbed or adsorbed substance

3.69**dew point**

temperature of air at a specified pressure below which condensation will occur

3.70**doffing**

process of removing or taking off the *respiratory protective device* (3.203)

3.71**donning**

process of putting on the *respiratory protective device* (3.203)

3.72**downstream valve**

valve that opens with the pressure of the air and is normally kept shut by means of a spring

3.73**drip**

to run or fall in drops or blobs

3.74**dynamic breathing resistance**

differential pressure caused by a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) when the *breathable gas* (3.29) is delivered by a *breathing machine* (3.38) adjusted to a specified breathing *minute volume* (3.153) and waveform

3.75**dynamic flame test**

test where the specimen is moving over the flame for the exposure

3.76**elastance**

E

pressure change resulting from a volume change

Note 1 to entry: It is expressed in kPa/l.

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

ISO 16972:2020
<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4aa2-a6ff-a50ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>

3.77

end-of-service-life indicator

ESLI

system that warns the *wearer* (3.257) of the *gas filtering respiratory protective device* (3.102) of the approach of the end of respiratory protection

3.78

escape respiratory protective device

escape RPD

RPD (3.203) designed to be used only during an escape from *hazardous atmospheres* (3.108)

3.79

exhalation valve

non-return valve that allows the release of exhaled and excess *breathable gas* (3.29) from the *respiratory protective device* (3.203)

3.80

exhaled air

air breathed out by the *wearer* (3.257)

3.81

exposed part

part that can be touched in an as-worn state by the exposed surface identification probe specified in ISO 16900-5

3.82

face blank

main body of a *facepiece* (3.83) to which the functional components are attached

3.83

facepiece

part of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203) that connects the *wearer's* (3.257) respiratory tract to the other parts of the device and isolates the respiratory tract from *ambient atmosphere* (3.12)

Note 1 to entry: Facepieces may be *full face masks* (3.96), *half masks* (3.104), *quarter masks* (3.192), *mouthpiece assemblies* (3.157) or *filtering facepieces* (3.89).

Note 2 to entry: *Helmets* (3.113), *hoods* (3.115), *blouses* (3.23) and suits may serve the same purpose.

3.84

face-seal leakage

leakage between the *wearer's* (3.257) face and the *respiratory interface* (3.202)

3.85

field of vision

area of fixed sight while wearing a *respiratory protective device* (3.203)

3.86

filter

device intended to remove specific *contaminants* (3.59) from the ambient air passing through it

3.87

filter holder

filter housing

component that is attached to either a *respiratory interface* (3.202) or another part of the *respiratory protective device* (3.203) and into which a *filter* (3.86), either encapsulated or un-encapsulated, is inserted

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

ISO 16972:2020

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c69dab2b-c8b1-4ee2-a6ff-a30ee4cb6b9b/iso-16972-2020>

3.88**filter self rescuer**

respiratory protective device (3.203) exclusively intended for escape, incorporating a *filter* (3.86) against carbon monoxide through which the ambient air is drawn to a *facepiece* (3.83)

3.89**filtering facepiece**

respiratory protective device (3.203) entirely or substantially constructed of filtering material

Note 1 to entry: Marked "FF" for filtering facepiece.

3.90**filtering respiratory protective device****filtering RPD**

assisted or unassisted *RPD* (3.203) in which air passes through a *gas filter(s)* (3.98), *particle filter(s)* (3.171) or *combined filter(s)* (3.50) before being inhaled

3.91**fit test**

use of a challenge agent and specific protocol to qualitatively or quantitatively determine the effectiveness of the seal between the *wearer's* (3.257) face and *respiratory interface* (3.202) with a specific make, model and size of a *respiratory protective device* (3.203)

3.92**flow rate**
 V_{fl}

volume (mass) of *breathable gas* (3.29) passing through the device in a given time

3.93**fogging**

reduction of the *field of vision* (3.85) and/or *visual acuity* caused by the condensation of humidity on the *visor* (3.252)

3.94**force-fitting**

practice of repeating a failed *fit test* (3.91) with the same *respiratory protective device (RPD)* (3.203) more than three times, re-donning, or otherwise adjusting the RPD (e.g. over-tightening the straps), until a passing fit test is finally achieved

3.95**fresh air hose breathing apparatus**

respiratory protective device (3.203) in which *breathable air* (3.28) is obtained through an *air supply hose* (3.9) either assisted or unassisted

3.96**full face mask**

tight-fitting respiratory interface (3.241) covering the mouth, nose, eyes and chin

3.97**gas**

fluid that is in a gaseous state at a standard temperature and pressure that expands to occupy the space or enclosure in which it is confined

3.98**gas filter**

filter (3.86) intended to remove specific *gases* (3.97) and *vapours* (3.251) from the atmosphere passing through it