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Respiratory protective devices — Human factors —

Part 6: **Psycho-physiological effects**

Appareils de protection respiratoire — Facteurs humains — Partie 6: Effets psycho-physiologiques



ISO 16976-6:2023(E)

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 94, Personal safety — Protective clothing and equipment, Subcommittee SC 15, Respiratory protective devices.

This first edition of ISO 16976-6 cancels and replaces the second edition of the Technical Specification ISO/TS 16976-6:2014, which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— the document has been editorially revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO 16976 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

Introduction

This document addresses the psychological factors that can trigger physiological effects (psychophysiology effects) that contribute to user acceptance, or the ability to tolerate wearing respiratory protective devices (RPD) for the duration needed. This document takes the position that the psychological state has a physiological correlate (e.g. anxiety is accompanied by an increase in heart rate) and that the physiological responses to wearing an RPD have an impact on the psychology of the wearer (e.g. difficulty in breathing will result in anxiety). The following clauses focus on a separate psychophysiological situation that can impact user acceptance or contribute to the likelihood of the wearer removing the RPD prematurely and, thus, being exposed to a respiratory hazard. The physiological responses to wearing an RPD is addressed first followed by a discussion on the psychological responses to wearing RPD. The discussion then turns to the methodologies used to measure the psychophysiological responses and how these measurements are used to predict whether an individual will have difficulty wearing an RPD. Finally, this document addresses the selection criteria that can be used to determine who is best suited to engage in an occupation requiring the use of RPD.