

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

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NATIONAL FIRE EQUIPMENT SYSTEM CACHE MEMORANDUM NO. 20-04

To: National Interagency Support Caches (NISC)

From: David Haston, Chair – NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

Subject: Counterfeit Respirators

Background:

Counterfeit filtering facepiece respirators may have been received into the National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) system. At this time, all NFES 0131 N95 respirators in the NISC system must be NIOSH-approved.

NFES 9999 face coverings are not considered respirators and therefore do not require regulatory approval.

If NIOSH-approved N95 respirator supplies become critically low, products certified under standards from other countries or jurisdictions may be authorized.

Required Action:

Check NFES 0131 inventory (including kits) and replace any filtering facepiece respirators that are not NIOSH-approved, including the products shown in figures 1 through 4 that have been reported as counterfeit. Replace with NIOSH-approved N95 respirators.

Shipping information for the products shown in Figures 1 through 4 will be provided separately by email. Do not transfer property or re-purpose as NFES 9999 face coverings.

How to Identify a NIOSH-Approved Respirator:

NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators (FFR) have an approval label on or within the packaging of the respirator (i.e. on the box itself and/or within the users' instructions). Additionally, an abbreviated approval is on the respirator itself. You can verify the approval number on the NIOSH trusted source page

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nppt/topics/respirators/disp_part/respsource.html to determine if the respirator has been approved by NIOSH. Information regarding counterfeit respirators can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nppt/usernotices/counterfeitResp.html>





Figure 1 and 2 Henghao KN95 (reported as counterfeit)



Figure 3 and 4 Kim Soul N95 (reported as counterfeit)

Additional information:

The National Fire Equipment Subcommittee Chair is Matt Cnudde, 208-387-5277 or matthew.cnudde@usda.gov

David V. Haston

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Chair – NWCG Equipment Technology Committee