

Legislation – Compressed Breathing Air Systems

Working in dangerous atmospheres

- 6.16(1)** An employer must provide a worker who is required to enter an atmosphere that is immediately dangerous to his or her safety or health with one of the following atmosphere-supplying respirators:
- 6.16(2)** An employer must ensure that air in an atmosphere-supplying respirator provided under subsection (1) meets the purity requirements set out in Table 2 of CAN/CSA Standard-Z180.1-00, *Compressed Breathing Air and Systems*.

Section 6.16(2) of the regulation refers to the purity requirements laid out in the CSA Standard Z-180.1-00. The current version of the standard is Z180.1-13 and presumably, a workplace should comply with the current version. In addition, the CSA standard also lays out minimum guidelines for airflow. This is to ensure that the worker gets enough airflow to keep the facepiece under positive pressure. Presumably the intent of the regulation is that a unit should also comply with the volumetric airflow specified in the CSA Standard.

Supplied Air Respirators are also mentioned in the Definitions of a Serious Incident.

Definition: “serious incident”

- 2.6** In sections 2.7 to 2.9, “serious incident” means an incident
- (c) that involves
- (i) the collapse or structural failure of a building, structure, crane, hoist, lift, temporary support system or excavation,
 - (ii) an explosion, fire or flood,
 - (iii) an uncontrolled spill or escape of a hazardous substance, or
 - (iv) the failure of an atmosphere-supplying respirator.