

BS 8468-1:2020



BSI Standards Publication

Respiratory protective devices for use against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) agents

Part 1: Positive pressure, self-contained, open-circuit breathing
apparatus — Specification

Publishing and copyright information

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Contents

	Page
Foreword	ii
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Requirements	2
4.1 General	2
4.2 Preconditioning	2
4.3 Visual inspection	2
4.4 Inward leakage	2
4.5 Chemical agent permeation and penetration	2
5 Marking	3
6 Information supplied by the manufacturer	3
<i>Figure 1 — Sulfur mustard (HD) agent droplet placement for SCBA facepiece</i>	3
<i>Figure 2 — HD agent droplet placement between facepiece and cylinder thread</i>	4
Bibliography	5

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 5, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This part of BS 8468 is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 August 2020. It was prepared by Technical Committee PH/4, *Respiratory protection*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

Supersession

This part of BS 8468 supersedes [BS 8468-1:2006](#), which is withdrawn.

Relationship with other publications

BS 8468 is published in the following parts:

- Part 1: *Positive pressure, self-contained, open-circuit breathing apparatus – Specification;*
- Part 2: *Negative pressure, air purifying devices with full face mask – Specification;*
- Part 3.1: *Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood for escape – Specification;*
- Part 3.2: *Air-purifying devices incorporating a hood for escape – Specification;*
- Part 4: *Powered air purifying respirators – Specification;*
- Part 5: *Combined and multi-functional apparatus – Specification;*
- Part 6.1: *Positive-pressure compressed air line equipment – Specification;*
- Part 6.2: *Constant flow compressed air line equipment – Specification;*
- Part 7: *Closed-circuit breathing apparatus – Specification;*
- Part 8: *Test methods.*

This standard can be used in conjunction with [BS 8467](#), which categorizes and specifies requirements and test methods for personal protective ensembles against CBRN agents.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard, and introduces the following principal changes:

- full face masks conforming to BS EN 136, Class 2 or Class 3 are now required;
- the test for permeation penetration has been moved to the new BS 8468-8; and
- the terms and definitions have been updated.

This publication can be withdrawn, revised, partially superseded or superseded. Information regarding the status of this publication can be found in the Standards Catalogue on the BSI website at bsigroup.com/standards, or by contacting the Customer Services team.

Where websites and webpages have been cited, they are provided for ease of reference and are correct at the time of publication. The location of a webpage or website, or its contents, cannot be guaranteed.

Use of this document

It has been assumed in the preparation of this part of BS 8468 that the execution of its provisions will be entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people, for whose use it has been produced.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “shall”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

Requirements in this standard are drafted in accordance with *Rules for the structure and drafting of UK standards*, subclause **G.1.1**, which states, “Requirements should be expressed using wording such as: ‘When tested as described in Annex A, the product shall ...’”. This means that only those products that are capable of passing the specified test will be deemed to conform to this standard.

Notes and commentaries are provided throughout the text of this standard. Notes give references and additional information that are important but do not form part of the recommendations. Commentaries give background information.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This British Standard specifies requirements for positive pressure, self-contained, open-circuit breathing apparatus (SCBA) intended to be used during fire-fighting, rescue, evacuation, escape, hazard containment and decontamination, and similar activities by emergency first responders (e.g. fire, ambulance, police, and associated civilian agencies and workers) in areas containing and contaminated by chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) agents.

This British Standard contains requirements for testing and marking.

Requirements for methods of and criteria for decontamination of respiratory protective devices (RPD) are not covered in this British Standard.

This British Standard is applicable to Type CBRN3 devices. Type CBRN3 devices provide protection against hazardous particular matter and gaseous and liquid chemical agent permeation and penetration.

NOTE SCBA conforming to this British Standard is also suitable for use in situations other than those involving the specific CBRN agents identified in this British Standard.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes provisions of this document¹⁾. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 8468-8:2020, *Respiratory protective devices for use against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) agents — Part 8: Test methods*

BS EN 134, *Respiratory protective devices — Nomenclature of components*

BS EN 136, *Respiratory protective devices — Full face masks — Requirements, testing, marking*

[BS EN 137](#), *Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with full face mask — Requirements, testing, marking*

BS EN 13274-1:2001, *Respiratory protective devices — Methods of test — Part 1: Determination of inward leakage and total inward leakage*

[BS EN ISO 16972](#), *Respiratory protective devices — Vocabulary and graphical symbols*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of BS 8468, the terms and definitions given in BS EN 134, [BS EN 137](#) and [BS EN ISO 16972](#) and the following apply.

3.1 chemical agent

toxic chemical that can be disseminated to cause harm

NOTE Chemical agents include chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals.

3.2 biological agent

micro-organism that is a pathogen and that has the potential to be used intentionally to cause harm

NOTE Human pathogens are relevant to RPD selection.

¹⁾ Documents that are referred to solely in an informative manner are listed in the Bibliography.