KN95 RESPIRATORS

Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards when properly selected and worn. KN95’s are a type of respirator designed to meet an international standard and are not considered a substitute for a NIOSH-approved N95 respirator used in the Respiratory Protection Program. They can, however, offer more protection than a cloth face covering when used correctly. Keep in mind: if a respirator is used improperly or not kept clean, the respirator itself can become a hazard to the wearer. If you choose to wear a KN95, you need to take certain precautions to be sure that the respirator itself does not present a hazard. You should do the following:

1. **Read and heed all instructions** provided by the manufacturer on use, maintenance, cleaning and care, and warnings regarding the respirator’s limitations.
2. **Do not wear your respirator into atmospheres containing contaminants for which your respirator is not designed to protect against.** For example, a KN95 will not protect you against gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.
3. **Keep track of your KN95** so that you do not mistakenly use someone else’s.

**HOW DO I KNOW IF MY KN95 FITS WELL?**

While a user seal check is not a substitute for qualitative or quantitative fit-testing, data suggests that it can be helpful in achieving a better quality fit. Here’s what you should do:

1. **Put on the KN95 according to manufacturer instructions (positioned so it touches your face along the entire circumference, pinched nosepiece to fit the curve of your nose, etc.).**
2. **Be sure you can’t feel any air escaping around the edges.**
3. **Positive Pressure Check:** Place your hands over the KN95, covering as much surface area as possible. Exhale gently. You should feel a slight build-up of pressure for a successful positive pressure check.
4. **Negative Pressure Check:** Place your hands over the KN95, covering as much surface area as possible. Inhale. You should feel a slight decrease in pressure for a successful negative pressure check.
5. **Re-adjust until both the positive and negative pressure checks are successful.**