Appendix D

Hampshire College
Respiratory Protection Program

FOR USERS OF AIR FILTERING DUST MASK RESPIRATORS

OSHA Respiratory Protection Program, Appendix D to Sec. 1910.134,
Information for Employees Using Respirators When Not Required Under the
Standard:

Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards
when properly selected and worn. Respirator use is encouraged, even when
exposures are below the exposure limit, to provide an additional level of comfort
and protection for workers; however, if a respirator is used improperly or not kept
clean, the respirator itself can become a hazard to the worker. Sometimes,
workers may wear respirators to avoid exposures to hazards, even if the amount
of hazardous substance does not exceed the limits set by OSHA standards. If
your employer provides respirators for your voluntary use, or if you provide your
own respirator, 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 respirators
   limitations.

2. Choose respirators certified for use to protect against the contaminant of
   concern. NIOSH, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and
   Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, certifies
   respirators. A label or statement of certification should appear on the
   respirator or respirator packaging. It will tell you what the respirator is
   designed for and how much it will protect you.

3. Do not wear your respirator into atmospheres containing contaminants for
   which your respirator is not designed to protect against. For example, a
   respirator designed to filter dust particles will not protect you against
gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.

4. Keep track of your respirator so that you do not mistakenly use someone
   else's respirator.