



Certificate No. FM 22786  
BS EN ISO 9001:2015

## Lifespan of filters

The question often asked is ‘How often should I change the filters?’

JSP Limited respiratory products have been developed to meet the requirements used in non-medical workplaces. Testing to medical device standards and practices have not been carried out. JSP Limited filter change guidance has been developed based on the Company’s experience of the use of its product in Construction and Industry.

Filter change guidance from JSP Limited is at best just that, a guideline. JSP Limited do not know with certainty the level of contaminant that is being worked with, or a person’s tempo of work/work rate or how the mask/helmet and filters have been or will be treated throughout the duration of the work being carried out. Each challenge environment (hazardous atmosphere) a user will encounter will be different from customer to customer although there will be some commonality.

JSP Limited’s range of Respiratory Protective Equipment has been developed to and has been tested to various standards. However, while there are some tests that assess the ability of product to be reused, the life of the filter is not assessed.

Those standards include: -

- EN136, the European Standard for Respiratory protective devices - Full face masks
- EN140, the European Standard for Respiratory protective devices - Half masks and quarter masks
- EN143, the European Standard for Respiratory protective devices – Particle filters
- EN149, the European Standard for Respiratory protective devices — Filtering half masks to protect against particles (dust masks)
- EN12491, the European Standard for Respiratory protective devices — Powered filtering devices incorporating a helmet or a hood

## **Particle filters for Full and Half Face masks**

A working week. However, if a very dusty atmosphere the filters may not last this long. When breathing becomes difficult the filter should be replaced. In cleaner environments the filter may not block but should be changed 28 days after removal from packaging regardless of use, or as mentioned when blocked, whichever is sooner.

## **FFP disposable masks**

All JSP Limited disposable dust masks are marked ‘NR’, this signifies Non-Reusable and should be disposed of after a single shift.

## **Powered Filtering Devices**

TH2 and TH3 devices will alert you as to when the filter in use is full/clogged/saturated. In cleaner environments the filter may not block but should be changed 28 days after the first use.

## **MANUFACTURING FOR SAFETY**

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## Reasons to change a filter

The biggest detriment to any filter is moisture, humidity, water / liquid ingress.

- If the filter is submerged in water, becomes wet or damp. Ingress of excessive moisture, liquids, cleaning solutions or visibly contaminated
- If the filter becomes damaged in any way (shape or form) or rattles when shaken.
- If breathing becomes difficult, excessive or laboured.
- If the wearer can feel the effects (signs and symptoms) of the potential hazard

## Why are filters and masks used?

To protect the wearer from harmful elements in the atmosphere that can/will cause damage to the respiratory system. Over time these elements may clog a filter, but it is difficult to know to what extent the filters have become clogged and what has started to grow inside the filter element after it has done its job and stopped the wearer from breathing in the harmful components.

The elements in the atmosphere that the filters are used to protect against will still be present within the filter after use. If working in a damp atmosphere and the filter has become damp it will dry out after use, if stored appropriately. Repeated use will gradually block the filter.

Filters and masks that have been used and stored for some time between uses have the ability for growth of harmful substances that cannot be seen.

## Longer use

JSP Limited are aware that some NHS Trusts are using filters for longer than 28 days from first use. JSP Limited do not recommend this but do recognize that local risk assessments may be carried out and that it may be decided to use for longer. This is done at the user's risk and is outside of JSP Limited's recommendation.

Signed for and on behalf of:

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Worsham Mill, Minster Lovell, Witney, Oxford, OX29 0TA, UK (United Kingdom)  
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