

STEP 2 COMPATIBILITY

In some cases, it is necessary to wear other PPE in combination with a tight-fitting respirator. Equipment selected must be compatible with the respirator to ensure that protection is maintained. The sealing area around the mask must not be interrupted, and other equipment must not push or move the mask out of place while the wearer is working.

During fit testing (see page 19) all other PPE must be worn to check that the wearer can achieve a good respirator fit while wearing the other items.



FACESHIELDS

Helmet and browguard mounted faceshields must be designed to be used in combination with the respirator, so that the mask body and filters fit behind the visor and allow freedom of movement.

SAFETY EYEWEAR & PRESCRIPTION SPECTACLES

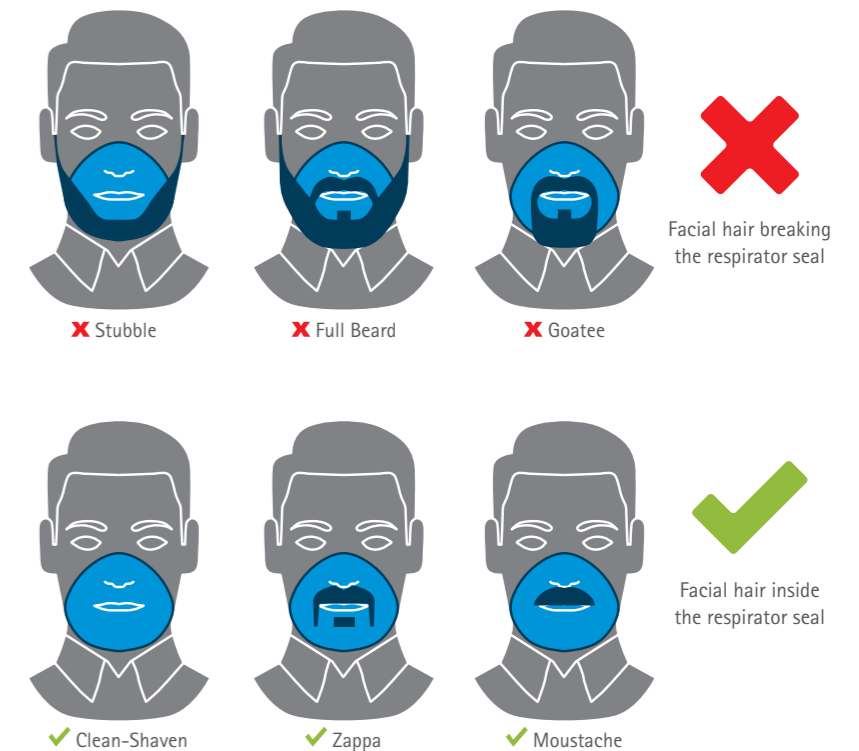
Eyewear fits close to the nose bridge and must not compromise the mask seal in this area. Compatible goggles and safety spectacles fit correctly with the mask to ensure proper protection. RX inserts are available for those required to wear a full face mask with prescription lenses.

JSP complete above-the-neck solutions are designed and tested to work together for optimum performance and the highest levels of protection.

WHICH FACTORS AFFECT FIT?

In order to provide a good fit, the face seal area of a respirator must not be interrupted so that it can seal effectively with the wearer's face. Some factors affecting the fit of tight-fitting respirators include:

- Facial hair – wearers of tight-fitting RPE must be clean-shaven in areas that are in contact with respirator seal.
- Eyewear & other PPE – prescription spectacles and other PPE can affect respirator fit, and any eyewear or protective items worn at work should also be worn during a fit test to ensure compatibility.
- Jewellery & make up – must be removed if in contact with respirator seal.

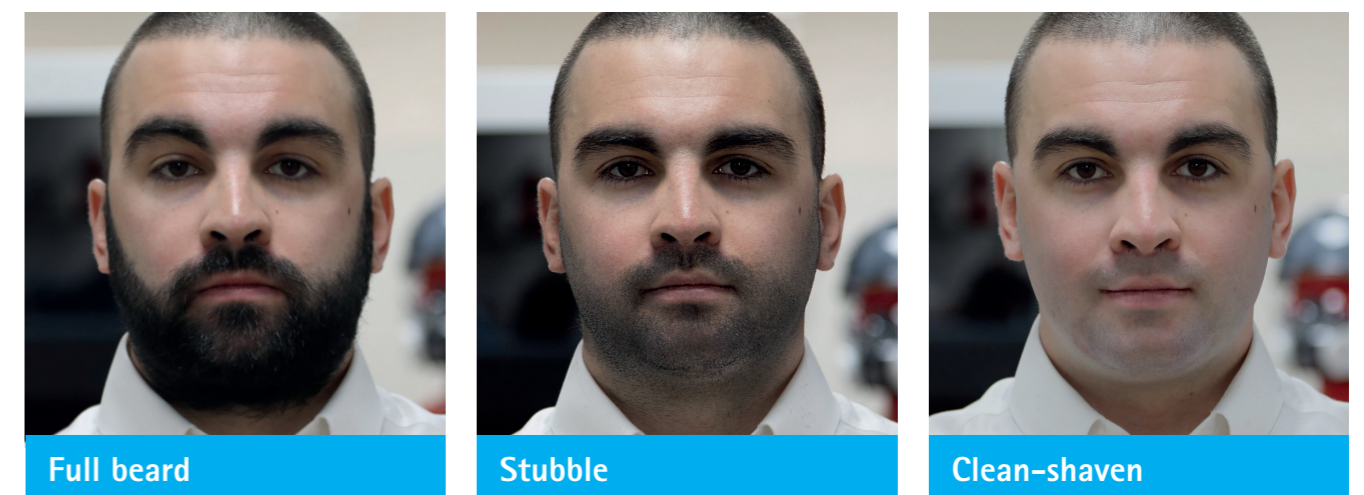


Suitability of some facial hair styles for disposable and reusable half mask wearers.

HOW DOES FACIAL HAIR AFFECT HALF MASK FIT?

Facial hair can interrupt the seal area of the respirator, meaning a fit cannot be achieved. Quantitative fit checks with the Force®8 half mask demonstrated that both a full beard and stubble did not allow the respirator to seal with the face, whereas the same test performed clean-shaven delivered an extremely high fit factor and showed the mask sealed effectively.

WATCH THE FULL TEST HERE
or view the video at:
<http://jssafety.info/FaceFitBeard>



Full beard

Stubble

Clean-shaven



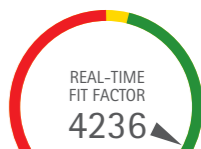
NO FIT



NO FIT



GREAT FIT



Fit factor reported by TSI Portacount™ quantitative fit testing device.