

## HAZARD ALERT

### KN95 Respirators



#### Incident or Event

With the COVID-19 pandemic on the rise, the need for CSA-approved N95 respirators is in strong demand. Given the supply shortages, employers have needed to locate suitable equivalents to the N95 respirator. However, reports of counterfeit respirators, such as KN95s which are manufactured in China and not regulated, may expose workers to harmful airborne contaminants.

#### Potential Hazard

Employers who unintentionally provide substandard respirators to their workers are not protecting them as intended and may be inadvertently exposing them to hazardous airborne particulates.

#### Takeaways

As per 6.15 of the MB Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulations:

Ensure that respiratory protective equipment provided to a worker is appropriate for the risk to which the worker is exposed in accordance with CSA Z94.4-02.

Ensure workers using the respiratory protective equipment are fit tested and adequately trained by a competent person in the proper fit, maintenance, use and cleaning of the equipment and its limitations.

Keep respirator in a sanitary location when not in use, away from contaminants

Follow the link to health Canada's recall of KN95 respirators, and a list of Manufacturers included in this recall: [link](#)