

## Filcon Corporation

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August 1, 1996

Dr. Bryan Hardin  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
Centers for Disease Control  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Dr. Hardin:

Thank you your July 11 letter. I am assuming that you are responding to my original letter to Dr. Linda Rosenstock on June 19.

I would very much like to see the technical evaluation of Dr. Leidel's memorandum and would appreciate receiving a copy as soon as possible.

I believe that the criticisms contained in Dr. Leidel's memorandum are correct and am stunned at the lack of action by both NIOSH and the CDC.

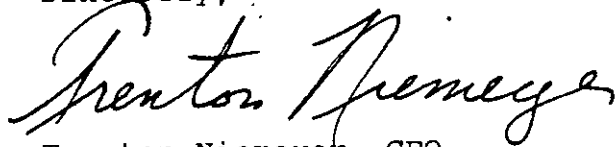
One of the most important issues Dr. Leidel covered was the pressure tightness test used to determine the fit potential of filter-facepiece, commonly called disposable, type respirators. The test was not universally performed on all disposable respirators submitted for testing, according to a letter from Chris Coffey which I have on file. His logic was bizarre. The test was performed only if there was a good probability that the respirator would pass. Several brands of respirators were therefore apparently never tested and still received approvals! Why?

More importantly, the test itself is bogus. In Appendix C of his memorandum, Dr. Leidel states that the test was unenforcably vague. He is correct. I can prove the invalidity of the test, in court if necessary. The approvals consequently should never have been issued. Within the next few months, you will be receiving a formal demand to revoke all approvals on all disposable type respirators until such time that the manufacturers of these products can provide a quantitative, objectively verifiable method to check facial fit.

I am disappointed that you have not chosen to answer my questions in my letter to Dr. Rosenstock. If my questions and the issues in Dr. Leidel's memorandum are not resolved satisfactorily, I will make the situation public and demand that the Congress intervene. In view of the potential harm to the health of American workers, failure to take corrective action could be construed as criminal negligence.

I faxed a copy of your IG report to Dr. Leidel to get his reaction and discovered that the document was never sent to him for comment prior to publication. Dr. Leidel will be contacting you directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Trenton Niemeyer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Trenton Niemeyer, CEO