

CDC: KN95 Masks - How to identify a NIOSH-approved respirator. NIOSH is the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Counterfeit Respirators / Misrepresentation of NIOSH-Approval

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/counterfeitResp.html>

Counterfeit respirators are products that are falsely marketed and sold as being NIOSH-approved and may not be capable of providing appropriate respiratory protection to workers.

When NIOSH becomes aware of counterfeit respirators or those misrepresenting NIOSH approval on the market, we will post them here to alert users, purchasers, and manufacturers.

How to identify a NIOSH-approved respirator: See below and [Click Here for Updates](#)

For your convenience we have also saved the 04.16.2020 file as a PDF here.

NIOSH-approved respirators have an approval label on or within the packaging of the respirator (i.e. on the box itself and/or within the users' instructions). Additionally, an abbreviated approval is on the FFR itself. You can verify the approval number on the [NIOSH Certified Equipment List \(CEL\)](#) or the [NIOSH Trusted-Source](#) page to determine if the respirator has been approved by NIOSH. NIOSH-approved FFRs will always have one the following designations: N95, N99, N100, R95, R99, R100, P95, P99, P100.

Signs that a respirator may be counterfeit:

- No markings at all on the filtering facepiece respirator
- No approval (TC) number on filtering facepiece respirator or headband
- No NIOSH markings
- NIOSH spelled incorrectly
- Presence of decorative fabric or other decorative add-ons (e.g., sequins)
- Claims for the of approval for children (NIOSH does not approve any type of respiratory protection for children)
- Filtering facepiece respirator has ear loops instead of headbands



NOT NIOSH-APPROVED



NOT NIOSH-APPROVED

This is an example of a misrepresentation of a NIOSH-approval. G & F Products is not a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder. (4/9/2020)



NOT NIOSH-APPROVED



NOT NIOSH-APPROVED

Any respirators being sold as Maskin are no longer NIOSH approved. They are counterfeit or they are no longer compliant to the NIOSH approval. (4/9/2020)



These are examples of counterfeit respirators using Shanghai Dasheng Health Products Manufacture Co. Ltd's (SDH) NIOSH approval number, TC-84A-4329, without their permission. Please note these respirators have ear loops. The NIOSH-approved SDH model does NOT have ear loops. These respirators are not NIOSH approved. (3/31/2020)



This is an example of a counterfeit respirator. Raxwell is not a NIOSH approval holder or private label holder. They are using Shanghai Dasheng Health Products Manufacture Co. Ltd's (SDH) NIOSH approval number, TC 84A-4329, without their permission. (3/31/2020)



MEDICOS (MOLDEX) LLC
 CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.
 800-421-0668

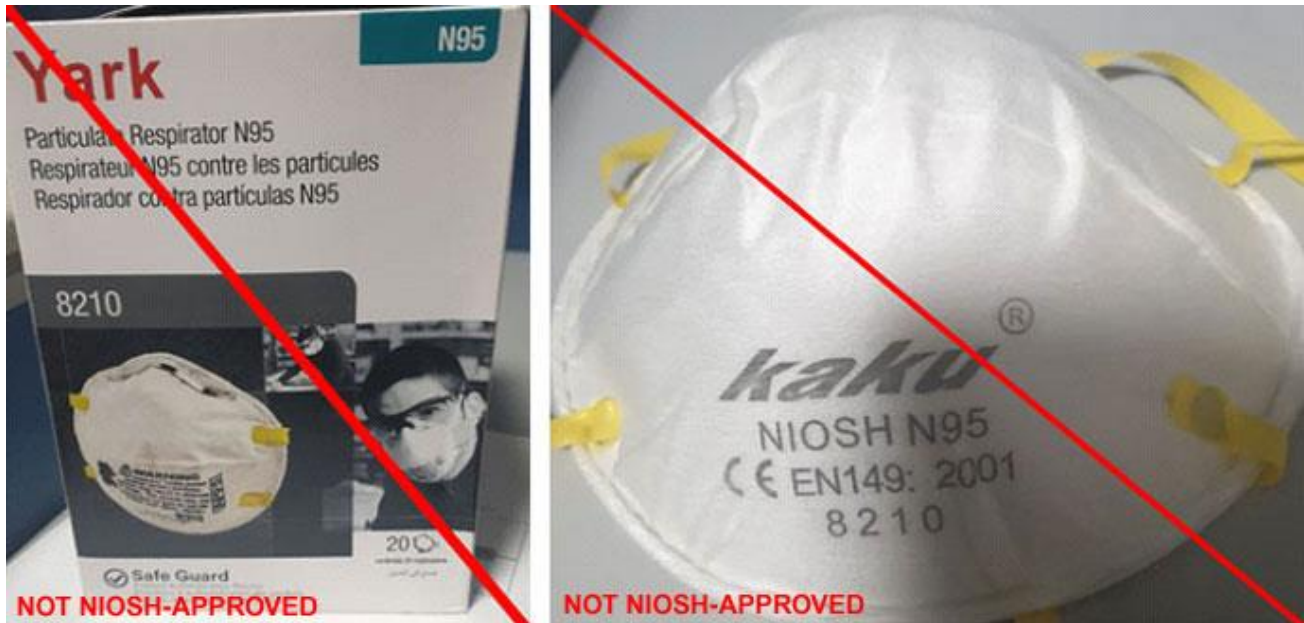
THESE RESPIRATORS ARE APPROVED ONLY IN THE FOLLOWING CONFIGURATIONS:

TC-	PROTECTION	RESPIRATOR			CAUTIONS AND LIMITATIONS?
		1861N95	2201N95	2202N95	
84A-0027	N95	X			ABCJMNP
84A-2456	N95		X		ABCJMNP
84A-2438	N95			X	ABCJMNP


1. Protection
 N95 Particulate Filter (95% filter efficiency level) effective against particulate aerosols free of oil; time use restrictions may apply

2. Cautions and Limitations
 A- Not for use in atmospheres containing less than 19.5 percent oxygen.
 B- Not for use in atmospheres immediately dangerous to life or health.
 C- Do not exceed maximum use concentrations established by regulatory standards.
 J- Failure to properly use and maintain this product could result in injury or death.
 M- All approved respirators shall be selected, fitted, used, and maintained in accordance with MSHA, OSHA and other applicable regulations.
 N- Never substitute, modify, add, or omit parts. Use only exact replacement parts in the configurations as specified by the manufacturer.
 O- Refer to user's instructions, and/or maintenance manuals for information on use and maintenance of these respirators.
 P- NIOSH does not evaluate respirators as surgical masks.

This is an example of a counterfeit respirator. Medicos is selling an N95 respirator using the Moldex approval number and label without Moldex's permission. Medicos is not a NIOSH approval holder or private label holder. (3/12/2020)



This is an example of a misrepresentation of the NIOSH-approval. Yark is not a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder. Additionally, respirators from the box include the CE (European) approval mark and NIOSH N95. This is not an acceptable format for a NIOSH-approved respirator. (3/5/2020)

 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL)
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Issue Date: December 16, 2009

From:
Heinz Ahlers
Chief, Technology Evaluation Branch
National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory

Subject: Voluntary Rescission of all Respirator Certificates of Approval Issued to Guangzhou Weini Technology & Development Co., Ltd. (GWT) Effective December 16, 2009.

RESPIRATOR USERS NOTICE

At the request of Guangzhou Weini Technology & Development Co., Ltd. (GWT), The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has rescinded the following certificates of approval:

TC-84A-4356 TC-84A-4359 TC-84A-4360 TC-84A-4915 TC-84A-4916

TC-84A-4917 TC-84A-5165 TC-84A-5166

As of December 16, 2009, no GWT respirator model bearing any NIOSH approval number listed above is approved and will not be manufactured, assembled, sold or distributed as NIOSH approved product.

The Guangzhou Weini Technology & Development Co., Ltd. (GWT) respirator with model number K320 is not NIOSH-approved. GWT respirator approvals were rescinded in 2009. Please refer to our [user notice](#) for additional information. GWT respirators bearing any NIOSH approval number listed on the user notice is **NOT** NIOSH-approved. (2/10/2020)



There are no markings on the face of the respirator. (11/6/2019)



NIOSH does not approve any type of respiratory protection for kids. (11/6/2019)



There are no markings on the face of the respirator. (11/6/2019)



This product is not NIOSH-approved. Look at the markings on the front. The logo is wrong, there is no approval number (TC-84A-xxxx). (11/6/2019)



This product is not NIOSH approved. No NIOSH logo or approval number on the face of the product. (11/6/2019)



This product is not NIOSH approved. No NIOSH logo or approval number on the face of the product. (11/6/2019)



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NOT NIOSH-APPROVED



Images here are examples of counterfeit respirators. These respirators are being sold as if they are NIOSH-approved even though the manufacturer, Anhui Tongcheng YaGe Health Materials, Co., Ltd, is not listed as a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder. (10/23/2019)

PitBull Safety Products are not a NIOSH approval holders



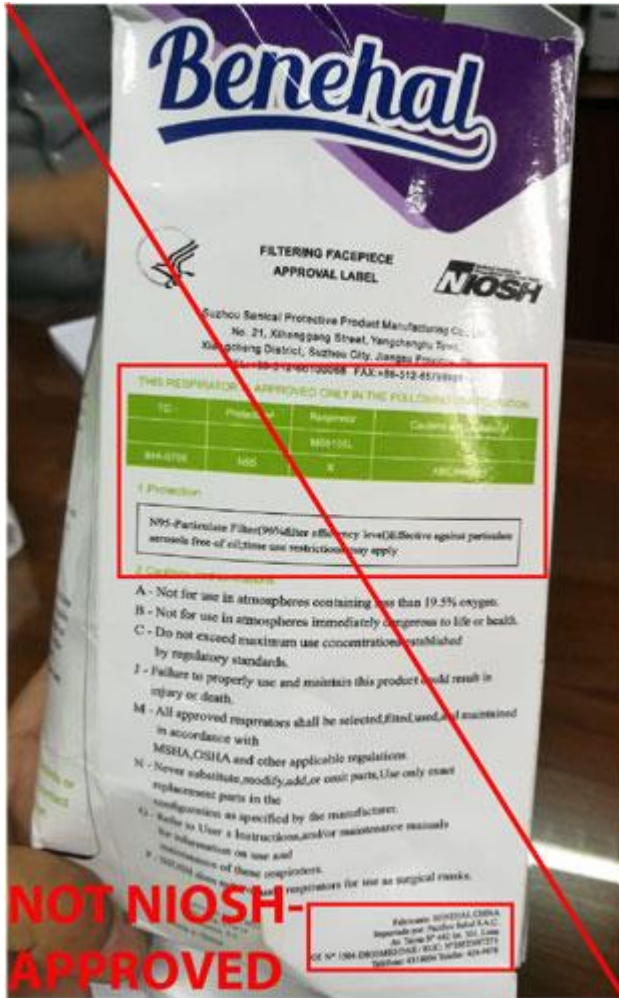
These are **examples of misrepresentation of the NIOSH-approval.** PitBull Safety Products is not a NIOSH approval holder. (10/07/2019)



This is an **example of misrepresentation of the NIOSH-approval**. Vogmask® is not a NIOSH approval holder. **This wording is misleading and not accurate:** (10/07/19)



This is an **example of two counterfeit respirators**. Valpro Safety is selling the Ranger 821 and Ranger 821V respirators using the 3M approval number (TC-84A-007) and label without 3M's permission. (6/19/19)



This is an **example of a counterfeit respirator**. Pacifico Salud SAC is selling units using the Suzhou Sanical Protection (SSP) approval number (TC-84A-6766) and label without SSP's permission. Additionally, there are two errors on the respirator package. The first error is that they claim the N95 respirator is 96% efficient. The second error is located in the bottom right corner of the package where it states the respirator is manufactured by Benehal China, who is not a NIOSH approval holder. (1/4/2019)



This counterfeit respirator, NT-V2 Nano Bi-Directional respirator, is being advertised as a NIOSH-approved, using a NIOSH approval number. The TC number (TC 84A-0427) belongs to a 3M full facepiece respirator with cartridges and was used without 3M's permission. Additionally, this counterfeit respirator was *not* manufactured by Pasture Pharma.



This respirator is being sold as if it is NIOSH-approved, even though the manufacturer, FitSeal, is not listed as a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder. (2/19/2019)



This is an **example of misrepresentation of the NIOSH-approval**. All approvals for Wein Products (WPI) were rescinded in 2011. However, the manufacturer's website continues to state the ViraMask N99ESC is certified by NIOSH. [View the user notice announcing the rescission.](#)



This is an **example of a counterfeit N95 Respirator** that was brought to NIOSH's attention. While the TC number and private label holder are valid, this unapproved unit can be identified by the misspelling of NIOSH on the front of the respirator.





These are **examples of counterfeit respirators**. These respirators are being sold as if they are NIOSH-approved even though the manufacturer, Zubi-Ola, is not listed as a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder.

Check the respirator approval markings (graphic below) or the [Certified Equipment List](#) to verify your respirator is NIOSH-approved. Additional information is available on the NIOSH [Trusted Source page](#).

Example of the Correct Exterior Markings on a NIOSH-Approved Filtering Facepiece Respirator

