



DISCUSSION 360°

POWERED RESPIRATORS:

**THE RIGHT
RESPIRATORY
PROTECTION
SOLUTION FOR YOUR
WORKFORCE?**

DP038



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RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Respiratory protection equipment (RPE) plays a crucial part in keeping workers safe from respiratory hazards across a myriad of workplace applications. When selecting RPE, many companies may look to disposable or negative-pressure options due to the seemingly lower costs of purchase (e.g., half masks and full face masks).

Disposable and negative-pressure systems may provide a reasonable solution for the most basic protection needs. However, depending on your working environment and requirements, powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs), particularly loose-fitting PAPRs, may be the most efficient and cost-effective respiratory solution for the workforce.

WHAT ARE LOOSE-FITTING PAPRS?

According to the Health and Safety Executive¹, a PAPR can be defined as a respirator which uses filters to remove potentially harmful contaminants from the air and uses a motor to push air through the filters. Unlike tight-fitting respirators, loose-fitting powered respirators do not rely on a seal on the wearer's face (covering the nose and mouth) as clean air is fed into a hood, helmet, blouse, or suit.

Now let's outline some features of loose-fitting PAPRs, like the PureFlo 3000, and review how these features can provide benefit to your workforce compared to disposable and negative-pressure alternatives.

Feature	Benefits
Loose-fitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fit testing not required• Can be worn with facial hair and/or spectacles• Potential for increased comfort
Higher assigned protection factor (APF; level = 40) VS half-masks/FFP3s (level = 20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Typically offers higher levels of protection
Consistent airflow of clean air	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces perspiration• Can help to keep the wearer cool
Additional protective features as part of the unit (e.g., head, face, eyes and hearing protection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrated system• Reduces the need for additional PPE



OTHER ADVANTAGES OF PAPRS INCLUDE:

1. Lower cost

While the initial cost of a PAPR is higher than alternatives such as disposable respirators, they generally provide cost savings over a 2–3-year period. To help understand how much money you could save by choosing a powered respirator, speak to your local HAYLEY DEXIS representative and they will calculate your bespoke cost-in-use estimate.

2. Less waste

As the lifespan of a PAPR is several years, switching to powered RPE can help to reduce waste and therefore reduce your workforce's environmental impact.

However, it's important to note that not all loose-fitting PAPRs are the same. Each respiratory protection brand offers something different, and it is essential to weigh up each product's pros and cons.

PureFlo PAPRs by Gentex Corporation, for instance, which are new to the HAYLEY DEXIS PPE range, are unique in that they offer a new generation of all-in-one, head-mounted systems.

HEAD-MOUNTED PAPRS PROVIDE:

- 1. Optimum mobility**
No belts, no hoses, no snags
- 2. Ease-of-use**
A straight-out-of-the-box solution which can be donned and doffed in seconds
- 3. Ease-of-maintenance**
With replaceable parts

We are an Authorised Distributor of PureFlo. Contact your local HAYLEY DEXIS branch for more information about the range of powered respirators.

1 HSE (n.d.), R - COSHH essentials: Respiratory protective equipment (RPE). Available at: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/guidance/rseries.htm> (Accessed: 18th August 2022).



PAPRs generally provide cost-savings over a two-to-three-year period.

CONTACT US!

Speak to your local branch today about any of your respiratory protection requirements.

You can find their details by using our online Branch Finder tool:

www.hayley-group.co.uk/branch-finder



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