

June 20, 2022

REGARDING FLEXAIR POWERED AIR PURIFYING RESPIRATORS (PAPRs) PRODUCED DURING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY and DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT the UNITED STATES in 2020

Dear AirBoss Defense Group (ADG) Customer,

From April to July 2020, ADG supplied FlexAir PAPRs to FEMA to facilitate pandemic response. To meet scale and pace of this requirement the contract did not require NIOSH certification. Some of these units were distributed by FEMA for immediate use to protect users during the COVID pandemic, as intended, while others may have been stored for future use.

Some of the PAPRs were not NIOSH approved. Others were approved as public health emergency (PHE) PAPRs and the contract included additional filters and hoods. The PHE-approved PAPRs are easily recognized by the assigned approval number within the original manufacturing packaging, which includes the designation "PH." PHE-approved PAPRs are marked TC-21C-PH05, and both are easily identified on the NIOSH <u>Certified Equipment List</u> (CEL). Additionally, units which are not NIOSH approved or were PHE approved have serial numbers affixed to the front of the Flexair PAPRs starting with the below prefixes:

2004			
2005	ADG	3371 75th Ave Suite GG Landover, MD 20785	
2006	AIRBOSS DEFENSE GROUP	301-382-8800	
2007	M-60176-WHT		
3000	FlexAir B	FlexAir Blower Serial # 20040001	
3B00	Serial # 20		
4000			
5000	Figure 1: Example Flexair Serial Number Label		

During conventional operations, regulatory agencies, such as OSHA and MSHA, require the use of NIOSH approved respiratory protective devices in occupational settings when deemed necessary. In preparation for the end of the COVID Public Health Emergency (PHE) it is necessary to ensure that units supplied for use in occupational settings under this contract, with limited and temporary or no approval, are retrofitted for continued utilization as a NIOSH-approved respirator or taken out of service.

While this contract was executed specifically to support the immediate need for PAPRs during the pandemic conditions that established the PHE, ADG recognizes that during conventional operations, NIOSH-approved respirators must be used in regulated occupational settings.

If you are currently in possession of units marked with any of the listed serial numbers above, please reach out to ADG at PHE@ADG.com or 301-352-8800 to discuss options to retrofit or replace the units requiring NIOSH approval to minimize any potential disruption.



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Sincerely,

Joshua Rozier Vice President of Contracts and Compliance AirBoss Defense Group