

**WORKSAFE SERVICES DIVISION
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATIONS**



Topic	Respiratory protective equipment - Breathing air	Issued by: V.P., WorkSafe Services
Statute	<i>Regulation 91-191</i>	Date Issued: December 11, 1998
Section	45(2)	Date Revised:

45(2) An employer shall comply with CSA standard Z94.4-93, “Selection, Care, and Use of Respirators” in developing the code of practice.

Question

Regulation 91-191 references a standard. That standard in turn references a second standard. Is an employer required to comply with the second standard?

Response

Section 45(2) requires an employer to develop a code of practice that complies with the 1993 version of CSA Z944.4 *Selection, Use, and Care of Respirators*. That standard says “Compressed breathing air shall comply with the purity requirements of CSA Standard CAN3-Z180.1”.

Section 4.3.8 of CAN3-Z180.1-M85 *Compressed Breathing Air and Systems* requires purity analysis testing of the air produced by the breathing air system “by a qualified laboratory acceptable to the regulatory authority at least once every 6 months”.

In essence, Regulation 91-191 incorporates a standard, which in turn incorporates another standard. In this circumstance, the second standard has the effect of the regulation. One standard is on respirators and the other is on compressed breathing air. It is reasonable for an employer in a workplace that requires respiratory equipment, to be familiar with both. Both are CSA standards and are readily available.