RESPIREX™

Flo-Pod™ Hood
Instructions for use

BS\094\B\2017

EN

Contents

General Information

The Respirex Flo-Pod™ hood forms part of a modular powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) system with breathing air supplied via a hood mounted Flo-Pod™ turbo unit. The Flo-Pod™ turbo unit must be fitted with a P3 particulate filter at all times. Please refer to the user information supplied with the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit for product specific details.

Important: The Flo-Pod™ hood must only be used in combination with the Respirex Flo-Pod™ turbo unit, no other model of turbo unit is compatible.

Note: The Flo-Pod™ turbo unit and/or P3 filters can be supplied separately from the hood.

All respiratory protective equipment manufactured by Respirex International Ltd is CE marked and type-approved to indicate compliance with the personal protective equipment Regulation (EU) 2016/425. The Flo-Pod™ system meets the requirements of EN 12941:1998 + A2:2008 (Powered filtering devices incorporating a helmet or hood).

The above standard specifies the physical performance requirements of the equipment, i.e. level of respiratory protection and mechanical strength of component parts etc.

Always use the Flo-Pod™ system in accordance with the instructions supplied (including relevant instructions supplied with the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit and P3 filter).

Designation

The Flo-Pod™ system (hood, turbo unit and P3 filter) is designated as a powered filtering device EN 12941 TH3P R SL, where:

TH=powered filtering device incorporating a helmet or hood

3= Class (inward leakage 0.2% or less)

P=Particulate filter

R=Filter suitable for reuse against aerosols (several workshifts)

SL=Solid and liquid aerosols

The Flo-Pod™ system, as approved to EN 12941 TH3, has a UK Assigned Protection Factor (APF) of 40*.

*In accordance with Annex C of EN529:2005.

Warnings & Limitations

- Only for use by trained, competent personnel.
- Failure to follow all instructions and/or failure to wear the Flo-Pod™ system during all times of exposure may be detrimental to the wearer's health.
- Flo-Pod™ hoods manufactured from blue laminate material are designed for single use only, Respirex cannot guarantee the integrity or performance characteristics of laminate hoods that have seen multiple use.
- Always seek advice if you are in any doubt as to the suitability of the Flo-Pod™ system for your particular working environment. Refer to rear of user instructions for contact details.
- The Flo-Pod™ system should not be used to provide respiratory protection against unknown atmospheric contaminants, or when concentrations of contaminant are unknown or immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH). Use only in atmospheres where the oxygen content of the air is 18-23 vol.%.
- During use, always ensure that filter inlets and exhalation valves remain unobstructed.
- At very high work rates the pressure in the Flo-Pod™ system may become negative at peak inhalation flow.
- Leave the contaminated environment and remove the hood if:
  a. Damage occurs to any part of the Flo-Pod™ system
  b. Airflow into the hood reduces or ceases, or if misting of the visor occurs
  c. Red LED warning displays/low flow warning sounds
  d. Breathing becomes difficult
  e. Dizziness or other distress occurs
  f. Contaminants can be tasted or smelled, or an irritation occurs
- Use of the Flo-Pod™ system in the 'power-off' state will offer little or no respiratory protection and is regarded as an abnormal situation. In the 'power-off' state a rapid build up of carbon dioxide and depletion of oxygen within the hood may occur.
- The Flo-Pod™ system must not be worn in restricted spaces (e.g. tunnels, unventilated tanks or pits) due to the risk of oxygen deficiency or presence of heavy oxygen-displacing gases (e.g. carbon dioxide).
- Never attempt to remove filter canisters from the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit in a contaminated atmosphere.
- The user should not confuse the filter markings of EN12941 (protection class when worn with a Flo-Pod™ turbo unit) with markings relating to any other standards.
- The Flo-Pod™ system is not designed to be used for abrasive blasting operations or in applications with a high flammability risk. Alternative PPE offering the necessary level of protection should be utilised for such applications.
- The Flo-Pod™ system should not be worn in working environments that require the wearing of safety helmets or where protection against non-ionizing radiation is necessary.
- Materials used in the construction of the system are not known to cause allergic reactions to the majority of individuals. The system contains no components made from natural rubber latex.
- Do not attempt to service the Flo-Pod™ hood; the hood contains no user-serviceable parts.
- Usable temperature range -10°C to +40°C at a humidity of <90%.

Pre-Checks

To ensure proper functioning, the hood and all component parts should be inspected for damage prior to use. Do not use any hood which shows signs of failure which may reduce the degree of protection intended.

1. Remove the hood from its packaging and fold out.
2. Carry out a thorough visual inspection for any damage that may impair correct operation.
3. Check the hood is free from contamination, both externally and internally.
4. Check the hood materials are free from tears and holes, paying particular attention to the seam areas.
5. Check that vision through the visor is not obscured by large scratches or scuff marks.
6. Ensure the expiry date printed on the P3 filter canister has not been exceeded.
7. Respirex recommend that the exhalation valves are part of the visual pre-check. If the valve diaphragm is distorted or damaged in any way the hood should not be used.
8. Ensure the battery pack has been charged as detailed in the instructions supplied with the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit, and/or that sufficient charge remains to power the turbo unit for the likely duration of the relevant work task.

Fig. 1. Check P3 filter is fitted to turbo unit

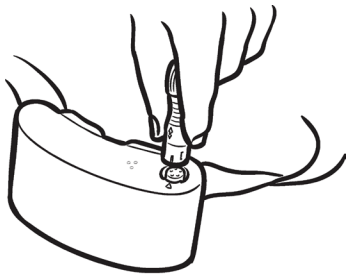


Fig. 2. Plug turbo unit power cable into battery pack

Donning procedure

Note: Before beginning the donning process, ensure that the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit has been correctly fitted to the Flo-Pod™ hood following the instructions supplied.

Important: Before donning the Flo-Pod™ hood wearers should familiarise themselves thoroughly with the user information supplied with the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit.

It is recommended that before using a Flo-Pod™ system for the first time wearers are given training by a competent person, and that details of the training are recorded.

9. Remove any outer clothing and personal effects which may cause damage to the hood (e.g. pens, badges, jewellery, etc.).
10. Ensure that a P3 filter canister is screwed firmly into the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit (Fig.1).
11. Adjust the battery pack waist belt until comfortable and fasten the buckle securely.
12. Plug the power cable connected to the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit into the socket on the battery pack (Fig.2). Ensure that the white line marked on the cable plug is aligned with the arrow marked on the battery pack.
13. Turn on the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit using the orange switch located on the underside of the battery pack (Fig.3). **IMPORTANT**: To avoid a suffocation hazard never attempt to wear a Flo-Pod™ hood before switching on the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit. Wait until a Green LED is displayed on turbo unit before proceeding with rest of donning procedure.

Fig. 3. Switch on turbo unit

14. Open neck seal fully by loosening the drawstring (Fig. 4).

Fig. 4. Loosen drawstring

15. Position the hood over your head and tighten the drawstring neck seal to a comfortable level (Figs. 5 & 6).

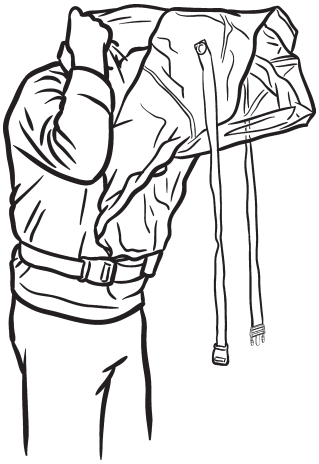


Fig. 5. Position hood over head

Fig. 6. Tighten drawstring

16. The cape of the hood should be pulled downwards and adjusted until it sits evenly on the shoulders; the turbo unit must be positioned a maximum distance of 4cm in front of the wearer's chin. The position of the turbo unit can be adjusted by pulling downwards on the ties attached to the rear cape (Fig. 7) or by use of the battery pack waist belt.

Fig. 7. Pull ties downwards

Fig. 8. Pass ties under arms

17. The ties should pass **under** the arms and be fastened securely across the chest using the buckle provided (Figs. 8 & 9).

Fig. 9. Donning complete

Doffing procedure

1. To remove the hood, unfasten the buckle on the under arm ties and lift the hood upwards and off the shoulders.
2. Pull the hood forwards and withdraw your head though the neck seal (Fig 10). It is unnecessary to loosen the drawstring as the neck seal will stretch sufficiently to allow your head to be removed from the hood.

Fig. 10. Hood doffing

3. Switch off the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit and disconnect the power lead from the battery pack.
4. Unfasten the waist belt buckle, then remove belt and battery pack.

Before being re-used with a new hood, the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit should be decontaminated according to your company procedures. Depending upon the nature and concentration of contaminant introduced during use, it may be necessary to replace the P3 filter canister fitted to the turbo unit. Refer to the instructions supplied with the filter for further information.

Emergency procedure

If any of the following occur during use, evacuate the work area immediately and remove the hood as detailed above:

- Flo-Pod™ turbo unit displays RED LED warning light and/or low flow warning device sounds
- Misting of the visor occurs
- There is a complete loss of air supply to the hood

Storage & Transportation

The recommended temperature range for storage is -10°C to +40°C.

Store hoods in the original packaging, correct way up as marked on the box.

Store above ground level in dry conditions free from harmful gases and vapours and away from direct sunlight.

Always rotate stock.

Never store outdoors or in damp conditions.

Only remove the hood from original packaging when intending to use.

Care needs to be taken when storing hoods at extreme temperatures.

At sub-zero temperatures the flexibility of suit materials may be reduced and the hood could suffer damage if not handled with care.

At high temperatures some component parts in the hood may suffer distortion if incorrectly stored.

For further information on storage of the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit and P3 filters, refer to the relevant user instructions supplied.

In order to maintain the level of protection offered, care should be taken to minimize the risk of damage occurring to Flo-Pod™ hoods during transportation between work areas. It is recommended that Flo-Pod™ hoods are transported in a suitably sized rigid container resistant to penetration by sharp objects, abrasive surfaces, chemicals, oils, solvents etc.

Cleaning

Flo-Pod™ hoods manufactured from PVC materials should be cleaned by wiping the outer surfaces with a sponge using a solution of Citikleen* and warm water (temperature not exceeding 50°C), followed by rinsing with cold water. Inner surfaces of the hood should be sprayed with Synodor to kill all bacteria.

Do not use solvents or strong cleaning and disinfecting agents as these can damage the visor and valve seals.

Care should be taken to avoid allowing water to enter the exhalation valves.

Hoods should be hung in a warm room to dry at a temperature not exceeding 30°C.

*Mix one part Citrikleen to 19 parts water, i.e 5% solution. Never use Citrikleen in neat form as this will cause damage to the hood materials.

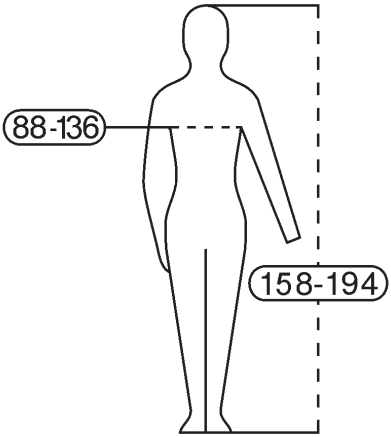
Both Citrikleen & Synodor can be supplied by Respirex.

Note: Flo-Pod™ hoods manufactured from blue laminate material are designed as single-use items and are not suitable for cleaning.

Refer to user instructions supplied with the Flo-Pod™ turbo unit for product specific cleaning instructions.

Sizing

The following pictogram designates the range of height & chest sizes suitable for use with the Flo-Pod™ hood. Body measurements in cm.



RESPIREX INTERNATIONAL LTD,
Unit F Kingsfield Business Centre,
Philanthropic Road,
Redhill,
Surrey RH1 4DP
United Kingdom

Tel. +44 (0) 1737 778600
Fax.+44(0) 1737 779441
www.respirexinternational.com

Type Examination By : **BSI (0086),**
Kitemark Court,
Davy Avenue,
Knowhill,
Milton Keynes MK5 8PP
United Kingdom