

# 3M Introduces Rugged Comfort Respirator for Harsh Working Environments

*New faceseal properties help improve respiratory protection and enhance usability*

3M has expanded its family of respirators to include the 3M [Rugged Comfort Half Facepiece Reusable Respirator 6500 Series](#). Designed with comfort, durability and stability in mind, the 6500 Series respirator is built tough enough to withstand long hours and extreme conditions, yet be comfortable to wear. The over-molded design of the 6500 series also offers wearers simplified cleaning and maintenance.

An estimated five million people across the United States are exposed to harmful dusts, gases, vapors and sprays daily while on the job.<sup>[1]</sup> The Rugged Comfort 6500 Series helps protect workers from these harmful substances with a soft but firm silicone faceseal that holds up in high-heat environments and comes equipped with long-lasting polyester-spandex straps. The 6500 Series also features a low-profile design for compatibility with other personal protective equipment.

“The proprietary quick latch design offers an easy, one-hand-touch drop-down mechanism for putting the facepiece on and taking it off while moving in and out of contaminated areas,” said Kevin Newman, product marketing, 3M Personal Safety Division. “The quick latch also eliminates the need to remove a hardhat or faceshield when lowering or raising the respirator.”

The Rugged Comfort 6500 Respirator Series also includes a valve cover design that directs exhaled breath and moisture downward to reduce fogging and an advanced half facepiece design for a wide field of view.

## About 3M

3M captures the spark of new ideas and transforms them into thousands of ingenious products. Our culture of creative collaboration inspires a never-ending stream of powerful technologies that make life better. 3M is the innovation company that never stops inventing. With \$30 billion in sales, 3M employs 88,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 70 countries. For more information, visit [www.3M.com](http://www.3M.com) or follow [@3MNews](https://twitter.com/3MNews) on Twitter.

## About 3M Personal Safety Division

3M offers a comprehensive, diverse portfolio of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) solutions providing respiratory protection, hearing protection, fall protection, reflective materials for high visibility apparel, protective clothing, protective eyewear, head and face protection, welding helmets, and other adjacent products and solutions such as tactical safety equipment, detection, monitoring equipment, active communications equipment and compliance management. In 2012, 3M celebrated 40 years of occupational health & safety leadership – recognizing the company’s respiratory and hearing protection solutions introduced in 1972. Visit [www.3M.com/PPESafety](http://www.3M.com/PPESafety) or <http://m.3m.com/PPESafety>. You can also follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/3MSafetyUS> and learn more about the 6500 Series Reusable Respirator line at <http://bit.ly/17NWXpz>.

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For More Information:

3M [Rugged Comfort Half Facepiece Reusable Respirator 6500 Series](#) high-resolution graphic

3M [Rugged Comfort Half Facepiece Reusable Respirator 6500 Series with Quick Latch](#) high-resolution graphic

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[1] <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/respiratoryprotection/>

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