



National Institute for
Occupational Safety and Health
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20201

August 24, 2010

Mr. Thomas E. Enger, MS, CSP, Chmm
Clemco Industries Corp.
One Cable Car Drive
Washington, Missouri 63090

Dear Mr. Enger:

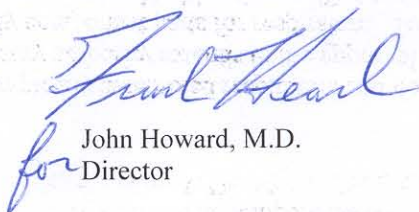
Thank you for your July 27, 2010 letter regarding the manufacturing and distribution of the counterfeit respirator parts. The workplace use of counterfeit respirator parts and components can reduce protection to workers who rely on National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) approved respirators.

As you are aware, NIOSH issues approvals for completely assembled respirators and does not approve individual respirator component parts. Our regulatory authority extends to the approval holder and not to the suppliers or subcontractors who make or supply component parts for respirators. To address the issue of counterfeit respirator parts we have joined with our approval holders in an effort to educate respirator users about the issue. The May 4, 2007, NIOSH Respirator Users Notice on the use of replacement and spare parts is a useful tool for providing this information. NIOSH routinely uses the information in this notice in discussions with and presentations to respirator users, safety personnel and respirator program managers.

NIOSH also relies on responsible respirator manufacturers to educate their customers about the need to use only manufacturer approved parts in-order to maintain NIOSH approval and ensure the level of protection the respirator has been approved to provide. The respirator manufacturer has direct access to their customers and is in a unique position to educate and provide information about this issue. Hopefully, the NIOSH Users Notice and reference to the website <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/pdfs/UsersNotice05042007.pdf> can be an effective tool for you to use in your efforts.

Thank you for your interest in this important issue. NIOSH will continue to seek opportunities to provide information and educate respirator users regarding the use of counterfeit respirator replacement and spare parts.

Sincerely,



John Howard, M.D.
for Director

cc: Mary Armstrong