








## Selection of Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE)

The following table provides a summary of the potential uses and effectiveness of the most common mask types. Estimated or ideally measured maximum exposure levels will be needed to select the APF type required for the task.

You will need to also select the filter type that is appropriate for the potential form of exposure.

Adequacy/suitability	Respirators						
RPE type							
	Disposable half mask – particle filter*	Reusable half mask – particle filter	Reusable half mask – gas/ vapour filter	Full face mask – particle filter	Full face mask – gas/ vapour filter	Powered mask	Powered hoods/helmets
Effective for particles	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓**	✓**
Effective for gas/vapour	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓**	✓**
Continuous wear time	Less than 1 hr	Less than 1 hr	Less than 1 hr	Less than 1 hr	Less than 1 hr	More than 1 hr	More than 1 hr
APF4 types	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
APF10 types	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
APF20 types	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
APF40 types	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓
APF200 types	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
APF2000 types	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗