

3M Center St. Paul, MN 55144-1000 651 733 1110

## **USER SAFETY ADVISORY NOTICE**

TR-6510N and TR-6530N Cartridges

Stop Use and Return Notice - Immediate Action Required

March 16, 2020

Dear Valued Customer,

Please <u>immediately stop using</u> all 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> TR-6510N (OV/HE) and TR-6530N (OV/AG/HE) cartridges in your possession or control. The TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges are used with the 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> TR-600 and TR-800 Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPRs). The TR-6510N cartridge is sold in a case of 5 and included in the 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> Powered Air Purifying Respirator Painters Kit TR-800-PSK. The TR-6530N cartridge is also sold in a case of 5 and is included in the 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> Heavy Industry PAPR Kit TR-600-HIK and TR-800-HIK.

<u>Please read this document in its entirety as there are actions that warrant your immediate</u> <u>attention and action</u>. <u>Please also share this document with anyone who may have the affected</u> <u>products, such as someone to which you sold the products</u>.

Based on recent internal testing, we have discovered that certain units of TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges (approximately 1.5%) may not pass the NIOSH requirements for HEPA particulate filters of at least 99.97% filtration efficiency. The TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges of concern may have a filter penetration of up to approximately 2% (filter efficiency of approximately 98%), which is below the relevant NIOSH requirements. The gas and vapor portion of these cartridges continues to meet the NIOSH requirements. Due to the construction of the cartridge and filter housing there is no way to inspect the cartridge to determine which ones may have a lower than expected filtration efficiency. Because of this, we ask that you cease use of any TR-6510N or TR-6530N cartridges being used for particulate filtration and return all unopened product to 3M by visiting go.3m.com/TRcartridge. For opened product, please dispose of it appropriately according to applicable requirements.

Though some of these cartridges do not meet the NIOSH particulate filter penetration requirements, 3M has conducted internal testing that has shown that if an affected cartridge with a filter efficiency of approximately 98% was used in a NIOSH approved configuration at the highest blower airflow speed setting, then an assigned protection factor (APF) of 15-19

may be expected to be achieved during use. For users that utilize the TR-6510N or TR-6530N cartridges for gases and vapors only, there is no change in efficiency as the carbon portion of these cartridges is not affected, however we still ask that you cease use and return all unopened product as these cartridges do not meet all aspects of the relevant NIOSH standards.

3M asks that you please review your inventory immediately to determine if you have affected product. If you have any of the affected product in question, please visit <u>go.3m.com/TRcartridge</u> for return and replacement.

We have addressed the issue at our production facility and are working diligently to resume regular supply. Please note that this stop use and return notice applies only to the 3M TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges and does not affect any other 3M powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) cartridges, filters, components, or assemblies/kits.

#### What should I do if I have affected product?

If you have affected product that is unopened (i.e., still in the original, unopened packaging), then please do not open it and instead return that product to 3M, per the instructions below. We will provide replacements for returned unopened cartridges at no charge.

If you have affected product that is opened, then please do not return the product, but instead appropriately dispose of it in accordance with your local regulations. 3M will provide replacements for opened products at no charge as well.

To return your unopened cartridges and request replacements, please visit: <u>go.3m.com/TRcartridge</u>

#### Replacement product

Once you receive replacement product, you will be able to determine if you have good cartridges in one of two ways: by locating a green check-mark sticker on the shipping label and cartridge packaging (see example below); or by confirming the cartridges have a lot code of 0320-2 or later (i.e., 0420-X, 0520-X, 0620-X, and so on), which meet all applicable 3M specifications, including filtration efficiency, regardless of whether a green check-mark sticker is present or not.



3M strives to provide the highest quality of respiratory protection products in the marketplace, and we regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

Sincerely,

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Ismail Mapara Global Respiratory Protection Business Manager – Powered and Supplied Air Products 3M Personal Safety Division

## Versaflo<sup>™</sup> TR-6510N and TR-6530N Cartridges <u>SUBJECT</u> to this stop use and return notice

Please note that this stop use and return notice applies only to the 3M TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges and does not affect any other 3M powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) cartridges, filters, components, or assemblies/kits.

3M <sup>™</sup> Versaflo <sup>™</sup> Organic Vapor/HEPA cartridge TR- 6510N 3M SAP ID: 7100021253 3M Legacy ID : 70071618303 UPC: 50051131373612 AAD: 37361	TR-6510N is a combination High Efficiency (HE) particulate filter and Organic Vapor (OV) cartridge for use with TR-600 and TR-800 series PAPR.
3M <sup>™</sup> Versaflo <sup>™</sup> Organic Vapor/Acid Gas/HEPA cartridge TR-6530N 3M SAP ID : 7100021007 3M Legacy ID: 70071618311 UPC: 50051131373629 AAD: N/A	TR-6530N is a combination High Efficiency (HE) particulate filter and Organic Vapor/Acid Gas (OV/AG) cartridge for use with TR-600 and TR-800 series PAPR.

#### Q: How do I know if I have affected product?

A: We believe approximately 1.5% of the 3MTM VersafloTM TR-6510N (OV/HE) and TR-6530N cartridges (OV/AG/HE) in the marketplace are potentially affected. However, because there is no way to tell in the field if a cartridge is affected or not, 3M is instructing that all TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges be taken out of service and either returned to 3M (if unopened) or appropriately disposed of (if opened). 3M will replace the affected cartridges at no charge.

#### Q: How will I know if I have product that is appropriate for use?

A: Any TR-6510N or TR-6530N cartridge that has a green check-mark sticker on the packaging validating that it passed NIOSH testing is good to use. In addition, any TR-6510N or TR-6530N cartridge that has a lot code of 0320-2 or later (i.e., 0420-X, 0520-X, 0620-X, and so on) is good product that passes all applicable NIOSH requirements, including those related to particulate penetration.

If you have product that does not meet these criteria (i.e., with a lot code of 0320-1 or earlier without a green check-mark sticker on the packaging), you should not use that product and instead appropriately dispose of any opened product and return any unopened product to 3M for replacement.

# **Q:** When will I be able to purchase additional units of this product? How quickly will I receive replacement product?

A: Timely resolution of this issue is a top priority for our 3M Respiratory team. 3M does not currently have a lead time for replacement product, but we are working diligently to replace product as quickly as possible for our affected customers. To return your unopened cartridges and request replacements, please visit: <u>go.3m.com/TRcartridge</u>

#### **Q:** What filter or cartridge should I use if I only need particulate protection?

A: If you need particulate protection only, you could consider the TR-6710N HE particulate filter which utilizes the TR-6700FC Filter Cover. Additionally, any of the following cartridges contain an HE particulate filter and could be used for particulate exposures:

- TR-6820N (uses TR-6800FC Filter Cover)
- TR-6320N (uses TR-6300FC Filter Cover)
- TR-6360N (uses TR-6300FC Filter Cover)
- TR-6350N (uses TR-6300FC Filter Cover)
- TR-6590N (uses TR-6500FC Filter Cover)

#### Q: What industries are these products primarily used in?

A: These products are used in many different industries. However, they are commonly used in autobody shops for painting, nuclear/decommission sites, heavy manufacturing, and oil and gas applications.

#### Q: What alternate product can I use? How quickly can I receive them?

A: Two alternate cartridges types could be considered depending on the contaminants in your environment and the PAPR configuration you are using; however, these are not direct replacements. The lead time will depend on multiple factors, but we are working diligently to ship product as quickly as possible for our affected customers.

• 3MTM VersafloTM TR-6320N Acid Gas/HE Cartridge

- For all TR-600 and TR-800 configurations for customers needing only Acid Gas and/or HE particulate protection

• 3MTM VersafloTM TR-6590N Multi-Gas/HE Cartridge

- For all TR-600 configurations and for TR-800 configurations using tight fitting facepieces or H-Series hoods where Organic Vapor/Acid Gas/HE particulate protection is needed. This is not an approved cartridge for use with TR-800 and M-Series or S-Series hoods. To return your unopened cartridges and request replacements, please visit: <u>go.3m.com/TRcartridge</u>

### Q: Has 3M notified any regulatory authorities of this User Advisory Notice?

A: Yes. 3M has contacted the relevant regulatory bodies regarding this notice, including the U.S. National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

#### Q: Did I receive protection if I used an affected cartridge?

A: 3M has found that approximately 1.5% of TR-6510N and TR-6530N cartridges may be affected. If you were using an affected cartridge for protection from gases and vapors, you would have received the expected protection, as the gas and vapor portion of the cartridges is not impacted. If you were using an affected cartridge for protection from particulates, 3M internal testing indicates that the use of an affected cartridge with loose fitting headtops would have provided an assigned protection factor (APF) of at least 15-19.

#### Q: What should I do if I have unopened kits or assemblies?

A: If the kits are unopened, you should return the entire kit to 3M. If the kits are open and in use, you should dispose of the cartridge being used (TR-6510N or TR-6530N) and contact 3M Page 5 of 6

for replacement at no charge. To return your unopened cartridges and request replacements, please visit: <u>go.3m.com/TRcartridge</u>

#### Q What if I have an opened cartridge on my PAPR system?

A: If you have an opened cartridge that you are using, you should cease use and dispose of that cartridge appropriately. You should then contact 3M regarding replacement product. To return your unopened cartridges and request replacements, please visit: <u>go.3m.com/TRcartridge</u>