
From: Tom Cox [TCox@masimo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2006 10:30 AM
To: zzMSHA-Standards - Comments to Fed Reg Group
Subject: [Docket No: RIN 1219-AB44];[FR Doc: 06-00722];[Page 4223-4226]; Coal mine and metal and nonmetal mine safety and health: Underground mines--Rescue equipment and technology; comment request

Dear Dept. of Labor; Mine Safety and Health Administration:

I am submitting a comment on RIN 1219-AB44. The Docket ID is 2006-0003, and the Document ID is 2006-0003-0001.

My comments are intended to alert you to a new patented technology that will make it simple to determine the amount of carbon monoxide a miner has in his or her system without having to transport them to a hospital for an official diagnosis. Therefore, I am addressing the section entitled A. Rapid Deploy Systems.

My company, Masimo Corporation of Irvine, CA received FDA clearance approximately one year ago to produce a handheld device that non-invasively detects carbon monoxide in the blood in about ten seconds.

This product, the Rad-57 is not unlike a handheld pulse oximeter, in that it obtains readings by placing a probe on the patient's finger. Unlike a standard pulse oximeter, this device delivers the specific percentage of carboxyhemoglobin (SPCO) at the touch of a button. The unit is also designed to report methemoglobin in the same manner. The methemoglobin portion of the product's capability is pending FDA approval.

Following the Sago mine tragedy, we are all acutely aware of the dangers associated with carbon monoxide poisoning. This is the number one form of poisoning in the United States, with over five hundred unintentional deaths annually, and over forty thousand emergency department visits.

Prior to the technology introduced in the Rad-57, in order to confirm carbon monoxide poisoning, and the actual toxicity of each patient, blood samples needed to be obtained, meaning transportation to a hospital was necessary. Carboxyhemoglobin levels were delivered by a CO Oximeter...something that only about one-half of all hospitals have on site.

The Rad-57 allows first responders to carry the device to the scene of any accident. In the initial contact with any victim, while vital signs are being obtained, it is now possible to accurately determine a) if any carbon monoxide has entered the patient's system; and b) what percent carboxyhemoglobin is present. This clearly allows for more effective triage at the scene of an emergency event.

I would be happy to present any follow-up information you require, and am available for a face-to-face consultation, if necessary. My contact information is below.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tom Cox
EMS Channel Manager

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AB44-Comm-20**

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