

Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with half mask designed to be used with positive pressure only — Requirements, testing, marking

The European Standard EN 14435:2004 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 13.340.30

National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 14435:2004.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted by Technical Committee PH/4, Respiratory protection, to Subcommittee PH/4/6, Self contained breathing apparatus, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international/European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

A list of organizations represented on this subcommittee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

WARNING The UK as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 14435:2004 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK consistently voted against its approval as a European Standard.

The reason for this disapproval is as follows. The Scope of EN 14435:2004 states that this standard "... specifies minimum performance requirements for self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with half mask designed to be used with positive pressure only. This European Standard does not apply to escape apparatus, diving apparatus and apparatus used for fire fighting." During discussion of this standard by BSI Committee PH/4/6, which mirrors the work of CEN Committee, TC79/SC6, the UK committee expressed the opinion that the self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with half mask is not a safe combination to be used in those emergency situations where wearers may be exposed to other conditions (such as exposure in confined spaces to, or leaks of, noxious or toxic substances) that will, on the basis of a risk assessment in accordance with The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002, require the combination to meet higher minimum performance requirements for the protection of the wearer.

Cross-references

The British Standards which implement international or European publications referred to in this document may be found in the *BSI Catalogue* under the section entitled "International Standards Correspondence Index", or by using the "Search" facility of the *BSI Electronic Catalogue* or of British Standards Online.

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Amendments issued since publication

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