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**Fire & Rescue Division
 Hazardous Materials Section**

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**APR RESPIRATOR CARTRIDGE
 COLOR CODING**

There are numerous types of filter cartridges available for use with the APR respirator. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) have developed a color-coding system for APR canisters. The chart below shows the color coding scheme, where the color code strip can be found, and what each color signifies with regard to use. For more information go to: www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/resources/pressrel/letters/ltr-011708.html

The color code stripe is usually found centered midway between top and bottom of the side. For example, **Acid Gases** have a plain white 1/2" wide stripe.

Some canisters have two stripes. For example, **Pure Chlorine** (gas) has both a 1/2" white stripe and a 1/2" yellow stripe closer to the bottom of the canister.

Manufacturers of canisters do try to follow this coding chart. There are literally hundreds of combinations.

These colors are in addition to the NIOSH CBRN label that must also be shown, if canister is so certified.

<i>Respirator Cartridge Color Coding</i>		
Cartridge Color		Cartridge Use
	WHITE	ACID GASES Hydrogen Chloride, Sulfur Dioxide, Hydrogen Sulfide
	WHITE with 1/2" GREEN stripe completely around canister at bottom	Hydrocyanic Acid Vapor
	WHITE with 1/2" yellow stripe completely around canister at bottom	Pure Chlorine
	BLACK	ORGANIC VAPORS (OV)
	YELLOW	ACID GAS with ORGANIC VAPORS Organic Vapors with Hydrogen Chloride, or Sulfur Dioxide, or Hydrogen Sulfide, or Hydrogen Fluoride
	YELLOW with 1/2" blue stripe completely around canister at bottom	Hydrocyanic Acid and Chloroacrin vapor
	GREEN	AMMONIA GAS Ammonia, or Ammonia and Methylamine
	GREEN with 1/2" white stripe completely around canister at bottom	Ammonia and Acid Gases
	CHARTREUSE	FORMALDEHYDE
	MAGENTA	RADIOACTIVE (Except Noble Gases and Tritium)
	BROWN	PARTICULATES (Dusts, Fumes, Fogs, Smoke, and in combination with any above gas or vapor)
	ORANGE	MULTI-GAS, or MULTI-GAS and OV, or MULTI-GAS and ACID GAS, or ALL
	ORANGE	MERCURY VAPOR (Also used as a 1/2" stripe color to represent gases not included in this table)
	BLUE	CARBON MONOXIDE
	RED with 1/2" gray stripe completely around canister near top	All the above contaminants in one canister