Provisions on escape devices

Transmitted by the Government of Austria¹

Introduction

1. 1.2.1 currently contains the following definition:

   “Escape device (suitable) means a respiratory protection device, designed to cover
   the wearer’s mouth, nose and eyes, which can be easily put on and which serves to
   escape from a danger area. For such devices, see for example European standard EN

2. Standard EN 400:1993 deals with self-contained respiratory devices, regenerating
   devices, self-contained closed-circuit, compressed oxygen breathing apparatus –
   requirements, testing, and marking. This standard was withdrawn in 2003. In any case, it
   was never applicable to escape devices, which are respiratory devices that use ambient air,
   whereas the standard relates to devices that do not rely on ambient air.

3. Standard EN 401:1993 deals with self-contained respiratory protective devices,
   regenerating devices, self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus, chemical oxygen

¹ Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2013/16.
(K02) – requirements, testing, and marking. This standard was also withdrawn in 2003 and should never have been mentioned here, as it also relates to devices that do not use ambient air.

4. The EN 400:1993 and EN 401:1993 standards have since been replaced by EN 13794:2002 on respiratory protective devices, self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus for escape – requirements, testing and marking. However, this standard also relates to devices that do not rely on ambient air and is therefore not applicable.

5. The EN 402:1993 standard deals with respiratory protective devices for escape, self-contained lung-governed demand, open-circuit, compressed-air breathing apparatus with full mask or mouthpiece assembly for escape – requirements, testing and marking, and has since been replaced by EN 402:2003 on respiratory protective devices – lung-governed demand, self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with full face mask or mouthpiece assembly for escape – requirements, testing, marking. However, this standard also relates only to devices that do not rely on ambient air and is therefore not applicable either.

6. The EN 403:1993 standard on respiratory protective devices for escape, filtering devices with hood for self-rescue from fire – requirements, testing, marking, has since been replaced by EN 403:2004 on respiratory protective devices for self-rescue, filtering devices with hood for escape from fire – requirements, testing, marking.

7. The EN 1146:1997 standard on respiratory protective devices, self-contained open-circuit compressed-air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood – requirements, testing, marking, has since been replaced by EN 1146:2005 on self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood for escape – requirements, testing, marking. This standard also relates to devices that do not use ambient air and is therefore not applicable.

8. There is therefore only one applicable standard remaining, and that deals only with escape devices for protection against fire. According to the decision tree, however, escape devices are not prescribed for flammable materials but for toxic, corrosive and carcinogenic materials. As a result, standard EN 403 is not applicable either.

9. There are currently escape devices such as the Dräger PARAT 4500 on the market, which are fitted with gas and particle filters to protect against organic and inorganic gases and particles and have been tested to DIN 58647 Part 7 (ABEK-P15).

Proposal

10. Amend the definition to read as follows:

“Escape device (suitable) means a respiratory protection device, designed to cover the wearer’s mouth, nose and eyes, which can be easily put on and which serves to escape from a danger area. For such devices, see for example European standard EN 400:1993, EN 401:1993, EN 402:1993, EN 403:1993 or EN 1146:1997 DIN 58647, Part 7.”