

# Who Was That Masked Worker?

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New England Roundtable  
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# Who Was That Masked Man?



The first responder will determine if the person has had a respiratory problem and if the person has had a respiratory problem, the person should be taken to a hospital. The person should be taken to a hospital and the person should be taken to a hospital. The person should be taken to a hospital and the person should be taken to a hospital.

**Respiratory Protection**  
 Respiratory protection is required when working in areas where there is a potential for exposure to hazardous materials. Respiratory protection is required when working in areas where there is a potential for exposure to hazardous materials. Respiratory protection is required when working in areas where there is a potential for exposure to hazardous materials.



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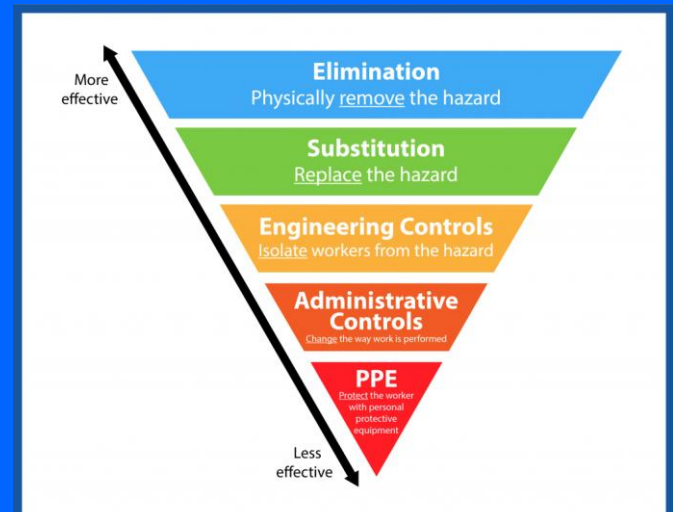
**Occupational Health & Safety:  
A privilege for none, a right for all**

Labor Occupational Health Program  
201 Channing Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704

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# Hierarchy of Controls

- Respirators should only be used as a "last line of defense" when engineering control systems are not feasible.
- Engineering control systems, such as local exhaust ventilation or containment should be used to negate the need for respirators.



# Respirators

- Respirators protect the user in two basic ways.
  - The first is by the removal of contaminants from the air.
    - Particulate respirators, which filter out airborne particles
    - "gas masks" which filter out chemicals and gases.
  - Other respirators protect by supplying clean respirable air from another source.
    - Airline respirators
    - Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)

# Outline

- Respirator Terminology
- OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard
  - Selection
  - Medical Clearance
  - Fit Testing
  - Maintenance
  - Training
- Consultation Resources

# Respirator Terminology

# Respiratory Inlet Covering

- That portion of a respirator that forms the protective barrier between the user's respiratory tract and an air-purifying device or breathing air source, or both
- Tight Fitting
- Loose Fitting
  - Hood or Helmet



# Tight Fitting



# Loose Fitting



# Mechanisms of Protection

- Air Purifying
  - Particle Removing- Filters
    - Not Resistant to Oil
    - Resistant to Oil
    - Oil Proof
      - 95%, 99%, 99.97% efficiency
  - Sedimentation, impaction, interception, diffusion

# Classes of Filters

42 CFR Part 84 establishes three series of filters and each has three levels of efficiency.

	95	99	100
N	N95	N99	N100
R	R95	R99	R100
P	P95	P99	P100

# P100 Respirators

- Air purifying
- Tight fitting or loose fitting
- P: oil proof
- **100**: Filter that is at least 99.97% efficient in removing monodisperse particles of 0.3 micrometers in diameter. Known as High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter.



# N95 Respirators

- Air purifying
- Tight fitting
- N: not resistant to oil
- 95: 95% effective at reducing exposure to 0.3 micron particles

Can be used to protect workers from airborne infectious agents

# Multiple Configurations and Manufacturers



Surgical masks are **not** respirators  
appropriate for cough etiquette & protection  
from droplets (not aerosols)







# Mechanisms of Protection

- Air Purifying
  - Gas/Vapor Removing
    - Chemical removal mechanisms
    - Maximum use concentration
    - Need good warning properties or ESLI
    - Efficiency declines over time





# Mechanisms of Protection

- Atmosphere Supplying
  - Supplied Air
    - OK for IDLH or  $<19.5\%$  oxygen
    - Grade D air
    - Need all components

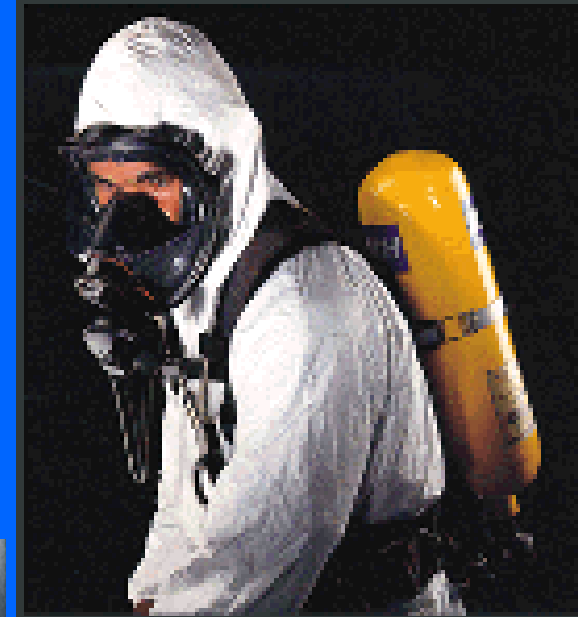


# Mechanisms of Protection

- Atmosphere Supplying

- SCBA

- Entry into and escape
- Demand and pressure demand



# OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard- 1910.134

- a) Permissible Practice
- b) Definitions
- c) Respiratory Protection Program
- d) Selection of Respirators
- e) Medical Evaluation
- f) Fit Testing
- g) Use of Respirators
- h) Maintenance and Care of Respirators
- i) Breathing Air Quality and Use
- j) Identification of Filters, Cartridges and Canisters
- k) Training and Information
- l) Program Evaluation
- m) Recordkeeping
- n) Dates
- o) Appendices

([www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov))

# (c) Respiratory Protection Program

## If respirators required:

Written Program

Selection

Medical Evaluation

Fit Testing

Cleaning & Inspection

Training



## If NOT required (Voluntary Use)

Written Program

Medical Evaluation

Cleaning and Inspection

Training (Appendix D)

**If NOT required**

**(voluntary use of filtering facepieces (dust masks):**

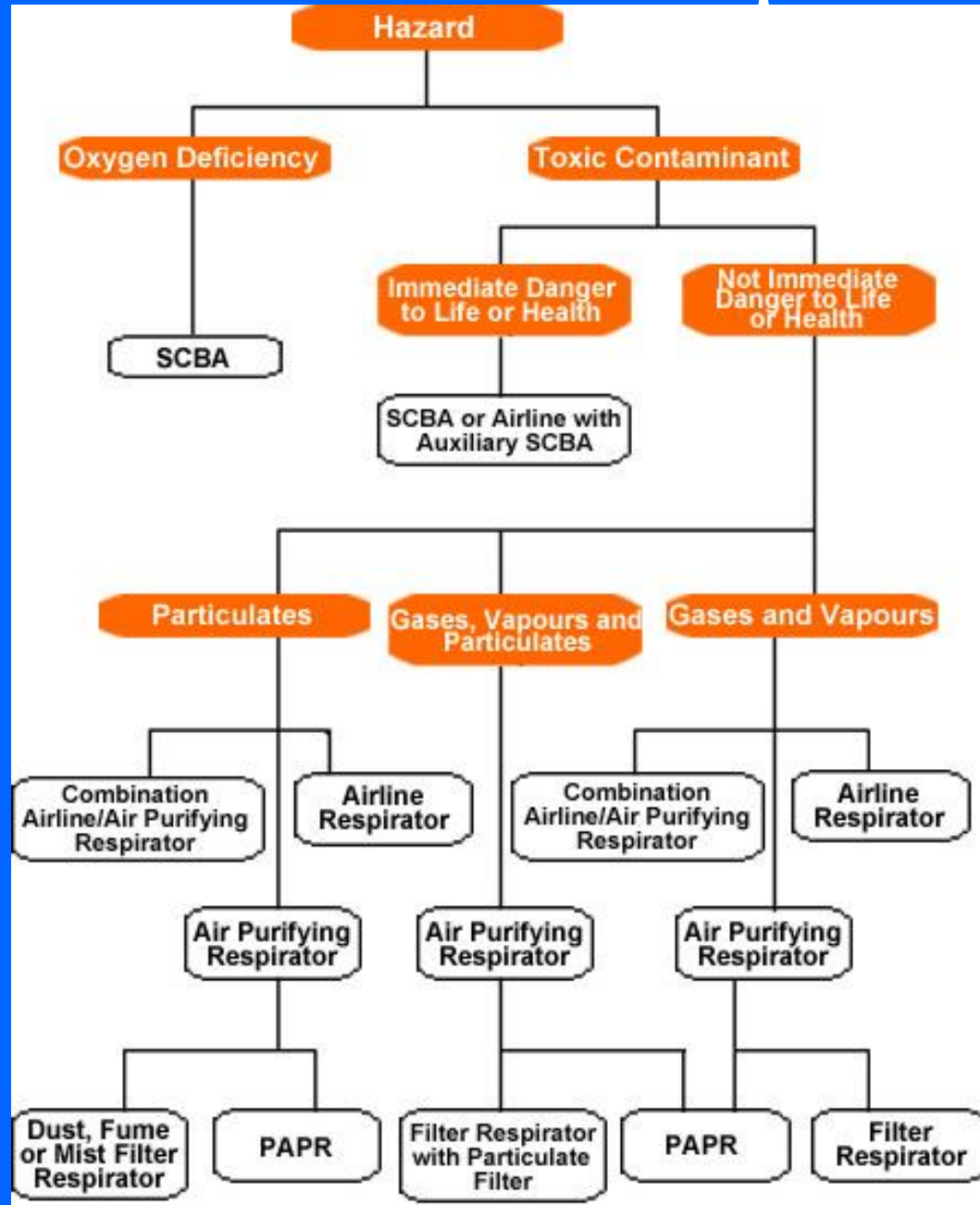
Dust Mask Definition: A negative pressure particulate respirator with a filter as an integral part of the facepiece or with the entire facepiece composed of the filtering medium

Training (Appendix D)

## (d) Selection: Respiratory Hazards

- Particulates
  - dusts
  - fumes
  - mists
  - fibers
- Gases and Vapors
- Oxygen Deficiency

# (d) Selection of Respirators



## (d) Selection- Protection Factors

$\frac{C_o}{C_i}$  = Protection Factor (PF)

$C_i$

$C_o$  = Concentration Outside the Mask

$C_i$  = Concentration Inside the Mask

# Selection- Assigned Protection Factors

Table 1. -- Assigned Protection Factors<sup>5</sup>

Type of respirator <sup>1, 2</sup>	Quarter mask	Half mask	Full facepiece	Helmet/ hood	Loose-fitting facepiece
1. Air-Purifying Respirator	5	<sup>3</sup> 10	50	.....	.....
2. Powered Air-Purifying Respirator (PAPR)	.....	50	1,000	<sup>4</sup> 25/1,000	25
3. Supplied-Air Respirator (SAR) or Airline Respirator					
• Demand mode	.....	10	50	.....	.....
• Continuous flow mode	.....	50	1,000	<sup>4</sup> 25/1,000	25
• Pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode	.....	50	1,000	.....	.....
4. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)					
• Demand mode	.....	10	50	50	.....
• Pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode (e.g., open/closed circuit)	.....	.....	10,000	10,000	.....

# Protection Factor Exercise

- 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  lead dust in workplace
- Employee has a fitted  $\frac{1}{2}$  face respirator with P100 cartridges. What is the concentration of lead inside the mask?

$C_o =$  \_\_\_\_\_

PF = \_\_\_\_\_

$C_i =$  \_\_\_\_\_

# Selection- Assigned Protection Factors

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# Protection Factor Exercise

- $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  lead dust in workplace
- Employee has a fitted  $\frac{1}{2}$  face respirator with P100 cartridges. What is the concentration of lead inside the mask?

$$C_o = 100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$$

$$\text{PF} = 10$$

$$C_i = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\frac{C_o}{C_i} = \text{Protection Factor (PF)}$$

# Protection Factor Exercise

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$$\frac{C_o}{C_i} = \text{Protection Factor (PF)}$$

- Will this respirator provide the worker with enough protection?

# Protection Factor Exercise

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$$C_i = 10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$$

$$\frac{C_o}{C_i} = \text{Protection Factor (PF)}$$

- Will this respirator provide the worker with enough protection?

OSHA Lead PEL: 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  - YES

# (e) Medical Evaluation

- Must provide a medical evaluation to determine employee's ability to use a respirator, before fit testing and use
- Must identify a PLHCP (Physician or Licensed Health Care Professional) to perform medical evaluations using a medical questionnaire (Appendix C) or an initial medical examination that obtains the same information
- Confidential

# Medical Evaluation

In determining the employee's ability to use a respirator, the employer must:

- Obtain a written recommendation from the PLHCP including:
  - any limitations on use relating to the medical condition of the employee or to workplace conditions
  - the need, if any, for follow-up medical evaluations
  - statement that the PLHCP has provided the employee with a copy of the PLHCP's written recommendation
- If the PLHCP finds a medical condition that may place the employee's health at increased risk by using a negative pressure respirator, employer must provide a PAPR if the medical evaluation finds the employee can use one

# Additional Medical Evaluations

- Annual review of medical status is not required
- At a minimum, must provide additional medical evaluations if:
  - employee reports medical signs or symptoms related to ability to use a respirator
  - PLHCP, supervisor, or respirator program administrator informs the employer that an employee needs to be reevaluated
  - information from the respirator program, including observations made during fit testing and program evaluation, indicates a need
  - change occurs in workplace conditions that may substantially increase the physiological burden on an employee

## (f) Fit Testing

- Fit Check and either:
- Qualitative
  - Irritant smoke
  - Banana oil
  - Saccharin, Bitrex®
- Quantitative

## (f) Fit Testing

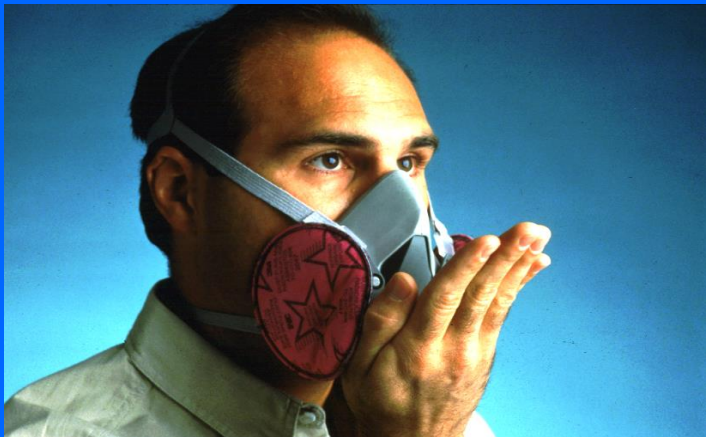
What is a Fit Test?

The use of a protocol to *qualitatively* or *quantitatively* evaluate the fit of a respirator on an individual.



# User Seal Check

An action conducted by the respirator user to determine if the respirator is properly seated to the face.



**Positive Pressure  
Check**



**Negative Pressure  
Check**

# Reasons for Fit Testing

- Select brand, model and size for each user
- Comfort
- Compatibility with other PPE
- Features that compromise fit:
  - Beard growth
  - Sweat
  - Facial disfigurement
  - Improper donning
  - Eyeglasses



# Respirators Requiring Fit Testing

All tight-fitting facepieces:

- Negative pressure
  - Air purifying (APR)
  - Demand SCBA & SAR
- Positive pressure
  - PAPR
  - Pressure demand SCBA & SAR
  - Continuous flow SAR

# When is Fit Testing Required?

- Prior to initial use of respirator
- At least annually
- When a different make, model, style, or size is used
- If employee, employer or PLHCP makes visual observation of physical change that could effect fit
- If employee notifies employer or PLHCP that current respirator is unacceptable

# Qualitative Fit Tests

A pass/fail test to assess the adequacy of respirator fit that relies on the individual's response to the test agent.

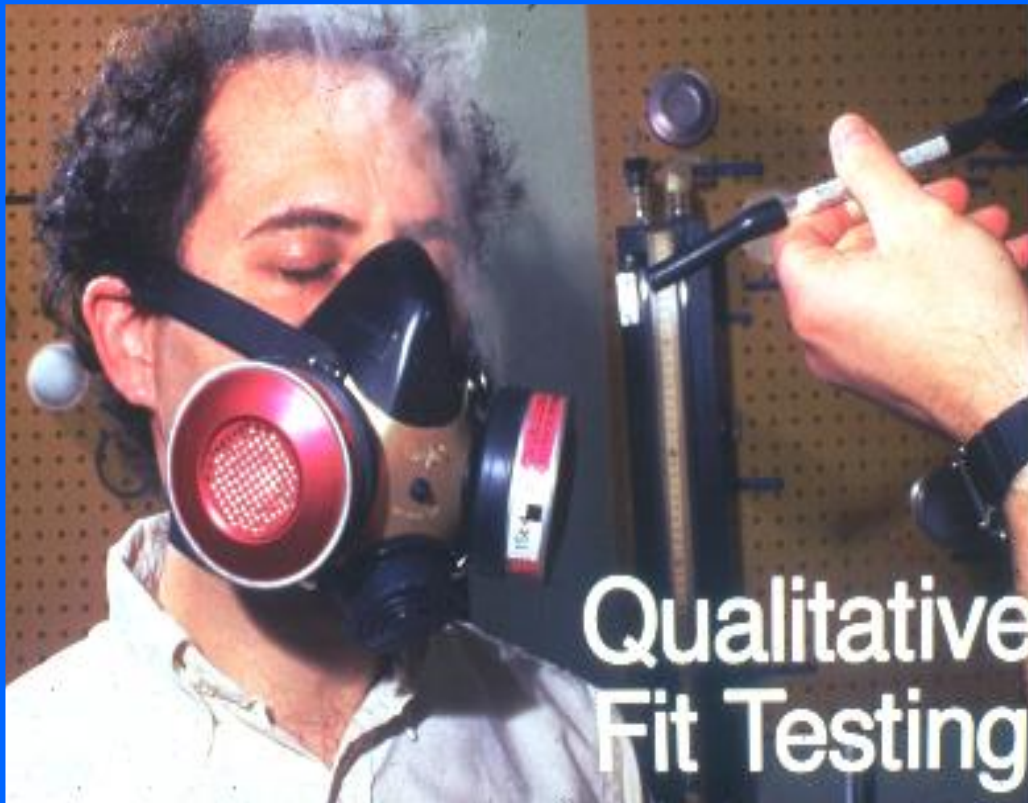
Bitrex/ Saccharin



# Banana Oil



# Irritant Smoke



Qualitative  
Fit Testing



# When is QNFT Required?

When workers are wearing *full facepiece negative pressure* respirators and exposure levels are greater than 10 times the PEL.

This includes:

- | APRs
- | Demand SARs
- | Demand SCBAs

# Quantitative Fit Test (QNFT)

An assessment of the adequacy of respirator fit by numerically measuring the amount of leakage into the respirator.

- Generated Aerosol (corn oil, salt, DEHP)
- Condensation Nuclei Counter (PortaCount)
- Controlled Negative Pressure (Dynatech FitTester 3000)

# Quantitative Fit Testing



# QLFT

- Advantages

- cheap
- fast
- simple

- Disadvantages

- subjective
  - dishonesty
  - power of suggestion
- individual variability
  - odor threshold screening
  - olfactory fatigue
  - colds/heavy smoker

# QNFT

- Advantages
  - objective
  - facilitates recordkeeping
  - assists training
- Disadvantages
  - expensive
  - high fit factors may lead to false sense of security
  - QNFFs have not been shown to correlate with WPFs

# (h) Maintenance and Care



# (k) Training and Information

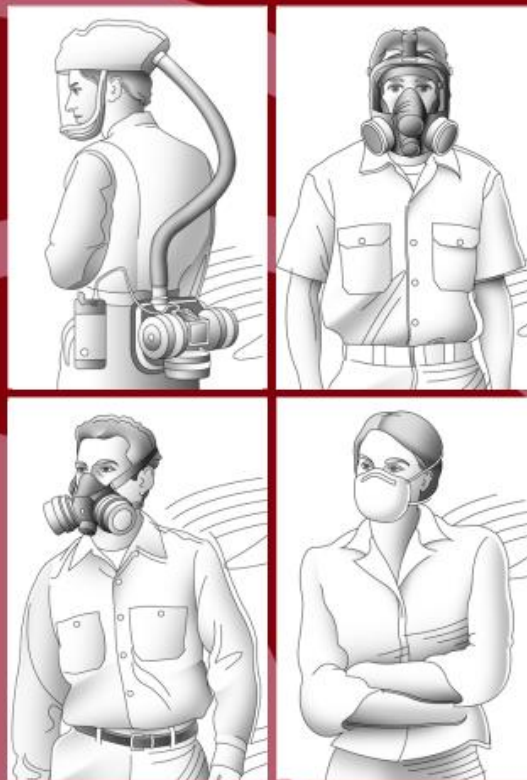
Employers must provide effective training to employees who are required to use respirators.



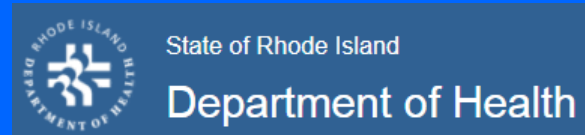
# Resources



## Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Respiratory Protection Standard



# OSHA Region 1 Onsite Consultation Programs



# How to Contact Your State's Consultation Program

- Connecticut: 860-263-6900/ [CONN-OSHA](#)
- Maine: 1-877-SAFE-345/ [Safety Works Maine](#)
- Massachusetts: 617-626-6504/ [Massachusetts Dept of Labor Standards](#)
- New Hampshire: 603-358-2411/ [Workwise New Hampshire](#)
- Rhode Island: 401-222-7745/ [Rhode Island Dept of Health](#)
- Vermont: 888-SAFE-YES/ [Vermont Project Worksafe](#)

# CONN-OSHA Consultation

38 Wolcott Hill Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06107

860-263-6900

[CONN-OSHA \(ct.gov\)](http://CONN-OSHA.ct.gov)



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- UNEMPLOYED WORKERS' ADVOCATE

## QUICK LINKS

FILE A WORKPLACE COMPLAINT

REPORT A FATALITY OR CATASTROPHE

TRAINING

REQUEST A CONSULTATION

CONN-OSHA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### CONSULTATION SERVICES

- About Consultation
- Construction Employer Resources
- Examples of Safety Programs

### N95 Respirators

- Recognition and Exemption Programs
- Consultation Service Brochure

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