

# TREND AIR/PRO RESPIRATOR

Turner Mark Baker breathes easy inside this new version of the one and only Airshield

**H**ere's the dilemma: whether to cover your face with a respirator, feel claustrophobic and risk 'Daft Vader' jokes from your buddies, or to look and feel cooler in an ordinary mask and risk inhaling fine and possibly toxic dust along with assault by flying wood chips. Not so much of a dilemma after all, put like that.

So if we take it as a given that a full-face respirator will do what it says on the box, we are left with the tiresome jokes and our own personal comfort zone. I have to admit that, while I wear a respirator for safety's sake, up till now I have never relished the prospect of wearing it.

I own – and use – the Airshield model that the 230V Air/Pro Airshield Pro Respirator replaces, so am I going to get a positive wearing experience from this new one? I'm looking for comfort, health and efficiency at a reasonable price.

## AT A GLANCE

- Offers double the protection of its predecessor
- Low-energy impact visor
- 98% filter efficiency
- Improved face-seal and hood
- Components positioned for optimum center of gravity
- Motor positioned away from forehead
- Functional components positioned away from brow
- Single rechargeable Ni-Mh 8-hour removable battery pack
- Replaceable visor, removable brow guard
- Twin filters
- Pre-use airflow go/no go indicator

## THE VERDICT

With the battery, motor, face shield and head guard sitting effectively on top of your head, the old-style respirators, like the last Airshield, could cause such neck ache and claustrophobia that after a couple of hours I always felt like removing it and abandoning the job. But this new Airshield is light years away from its predecessor. The balance is better, I was able to work for four hours without neck fatigue, it feels as if there's more space inside and as if more air's blowing across the face. It's a massive improvement and one of the least expensive respirators available today.

So come on boys, carry on taking the mickey, but I'll be having the last laugh! ■

## SPECIFICATIONS & PRICE

### THE NUMBERS

Airflow min	160 l/min
Airflow fully charged	200 l/min
Headband size	20½" - 24½"
Motor sound level	70dB
Battery	8hr
Weight	2.2lbs
Charger voltage	230V
Eye protection to BS EN 166 (low energy impact)	
Respiratory protection (NPF50) to BS EN 12941 THP2	
Price:	\$399

### MORE INFORMATION

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