

## TESTED



# Trend Airshield

## VERDICT

An light and comfortable respirator which provides a clean flow of air across the face. The motor noise is low and the replaceable visor protective strip means you can ensure that clear vision isn't compromised by scratches.

**Price: £159.95 + VAT, supplied as standard with a 4-hour rechargeable battery, charger, fine dust filter (to THP2), a pre-filter, airflow indicator, visor overlay, carry bag, COSHH maintenance card and full instructions. Replacement filters are available as accessories.**

*For more information and details of your nearest stockist contact Trend Machinery & Cutting Tools Ltd, Tel: 08800 4 TREND or 01923 224657, Fax: 01923 236879, email: airshield@trendm.co.uk or website: www.trendm.co.uk.*

use and turning a knob on the back of the headband enables you to achieve a tight yet comfortable fit. It looks bulky but only weighs about 730 grams and I wore it for a couple of hours at my lathe with just a short break and it didn't cause any discomfort. I was relieved to find that wearing my spectacles underneath the visor didn't present any problems.

### Visor protection

The fan switches on and off by pressing a small switch in the top of the helmet and, in use, it makes a quiet buzzing noise. The Airshield is supplied with a soft plastic carrying bag that can be hung on the wall to provide storage for it.

With most eye protection devices, care must be taken with the maintenance of the visor as it will become progressively less and less useful if it gets scratched. This visor comes with a tear off protective transparent strip that can be replaced, similar in look to the system used by Formula one racing drivers.

All parts, including filters and accessories are easily changed without the use of special tools and come packed for immediate use.

The unit is CE approved to BS EN 166 for low energy impact and BS EN 146 THP2 for respiratory protection.

*Tested by Dave Mackenzie*

**T**he Airshield is a lightweight battery-powered respirator for use with all woodworking applications, especially routing and woodturning. It's fitted with a four-hour battery and recharge time is fourteen hours from fully discharged. It has a built in fan, two filters and a polycarbonate flip-up visor providing excellent protection from the inhalation of harmful dust whilst protecting the eyes and face from flying debris.

With power coming from either one or two rechargeable battery packs inside the respirator, air is filtered through the respirator to provide a constant flow of clean air over the face. A soft face seal ensures positive pressure is maintained within the visor and prevents debris or contaminate entering the visor area, and the visor is mounted on a fully adjustable headband providing a comfortable fit for most head sizes. The second battery pack is not supplied as standard.

### Snug fit

When you first assemble the battery pack into the helmet — a 20 second job — there's a small pressure-testing device supplied with the helmet that gives you piece of mind regarding the amount of airflow.

The idea is not that the mask has a completely airtight fit around the face, but that it fits snugly and in contact with the face all around. The fan maintains a higher pressure inside the mask than the air outside and so no contaminated air can get in.

The headband has an adjustable ratchet and is well padded. It's simple to

