Particle filters are classified based on the degree of filtration according to EN 143:2000 and EN 149. R = Reusable. NR = Not Reusable.

Colour code	Filter class		Separation level (NaCl) dry particles		Separation level (paraffin oil) wet particles	
EN 143	EN 143	EN 149	EN 143	EN 149	EN 143	EN 149
White	P1*	FFP1*	80%	80%	80%	80%
White	P2**	FFP2**	94%	94%	94%	94%
White	P3***	FFP3***	99.95%	99%	99.95%	99%

A higher class also covers lower classes, i.e. P3 covers both P1 and P2. Filters are replaced whenever a filter has been damaged or when there is resistance when breathing. Particle filtration protects solely against particles.

Not against aerosol liquids, carcinogenic and radioactive substances, microorganisms (bacteria, viruses, spores) or against biochemical substances (enzymes, hormones).

^{**} Not against microorganisms (viruses, spores) or biochemical substances (enzymes, hormones).

^{***} Protects against all types of particles.