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said outlet end configured to permit fluid-tight engagement with an air input orifice of an air filter canister of a gas mask

an air flow actuated flap-valve switch, said switch being actuated by the respiration of a wearer of said gas mask; 5
a battery powered logic circuit operatively associated with said flap-valve switch; and
a means for reporting the presence or absence of respiration.

15 **15.** The respiration monitor of claim **14** further comprising an on/off switch operatively associated with said battery.

16. The respiration monitor of claim **15** wherein said means for reporting the presence or absence of respiration comprises a visually detectable light which is electrically illuminated when respiration moves said flap-valve to an open position. 15

17. The respiration monitor of claim **16** wherein said means for reporting the presence or absence of respiration includes an audible detectable alarm which is electrically sounded when respiration moves said flap-valve to an open position. 20

18. The respiration monitor of claim **17** wherein said means for reporting the presence or absence of respiration further includes a visual display of a rate of respiration calculated by said logic circuit based.

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19. A method of using a respiration monitor comprising: disposing a monitor body having an inlet, an outlet and a fluid monitoring chamber passing therethrough in fluid tight contact with the outside end of a gas mask; whereby respiration of a wearer of said gas mask draws air through said monitor, then into said gas mask, and then to the lungs of the user;

activating a battery powered logic circuit configured to sense air movement in said fluid monitoring chamber; detecting the presence or absence of air passing from said inlet to said outlet, and determining the presence or absence of respiration.

20. The method of claim **19** wherein said monitor is disposed around an air inlet of said gas mask.

21. The method of claim **19** wherein said monitor is coupled to an air inlet of said gas mask.

22. The method of claim **19** wherein said monitor is disposed around an air inlet of said gas mask filter canister.

23. The method of claim **19** wherein said monitor is coupled to an air inlet of said gas mask filter canister.

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