WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An interface assembly, comprising:

a mask comprising a seal that surrounds and delivers a flow of breathing gas to a mouth and~~/or~~ nose of a user;

the seal being configured to seal around the mouth of a user and on an underside of the nose of the user

a headgear that secures the mask to the face of the user, the headgear comprising relatively rigid portions that contact the cheeks of the user and support the mask relative to the face of the user, the relatively rigid portions having sufficient rigidity to maintain a position of the mask and limit compression of the seal in response to tightening of the headgear,

wherein the headgear further comprises an upper arm or strap extending rearwardly from each of the relatively rigid portions toward a location generally above the user's ear, ~~and~~

wherein the headgear further comprises a rear halo portion surrounding a parietal region of the user's head and coupled to the upper arms or straps, wherein a portion of the rear halo portion, the upper arms or straps, and the mask cooperate to form a front halo portion,~~.~~

~~2. The interface assembly of Claim 1,~~ wherein the headgear comprises a crown strap, which forms a part of each of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion, and a rear strap, which forms a part of the rear halo portion, ~~.~~

wherein the headgear comprises rigid ear loop portions, each portion extending in an arcuate manner behind the user's ears from below the ear to above the ear.

~~3.~~2.The interface assembly of ~~any one of~~ Claims ~~1-2~~1, wherein at least portions of the upper arm, the crown strap and the rear strap are constructed from a relatively rigid material or a relatively non-stretch material.

4.3.The interface assembly of any one of Claims 1-23, wherein the headgear comprises a pair of rigid sections, each rigid section comprising an upper arm, a portion of the crown strap and a portion of the rear strap, wherein each of the crown strap and the rear strap comprises adjustment arrangements that connect the rigid sections to one another and permit adjustment of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion.

5.4.The interface assembly of Claim 34, wherein the adjustment arrangements comprise flexible straps.

6.5. An interface assembly, comprising:

a mask assembly comprising a seal that surrounds and delivers a flow of breathing gas to a mouth and nose of a user;

the seal being configured to seal around a the mouth of a user and on an underside of a the nose of the user

a headgear that secures the mask to the face of the user, wherein the headgear comprises a rear halo portion surrounding a parietal region of the user's head and wherein the headgear cooperates with the mask to form a front halo portion surrounding a frontal region of the user's head,, and wherein one or both of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion are adjustable in circumference,

wherein the headgear comprises a crown strap, which forms a part of each of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion, and a rear strap, which forms a part of the rear halo portion, and

wherein the headgear comprises rigid ear loop portions, each portion extending in an arcuate manner behind the user's ears from below the ear to above the ear.

7.6.The interface assembly of Claim 56, wherein the headgear comprises a relatively stretchable portion and a relatively non-stretchable portion, wherein the relatively non-stretchable portion surrounds each of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion.

8.7.The interface assembly of any one of Claims 56-67, further comprising a break-fit assembly that permits the headgear to move between a normal configuration and an enlarged configuration.

~~9.~~8.The interface assembly of Claim 7~~8~~, wherein the break-fit assembly comprises a separation between a first portion of the headgear and a second portion of the headgear, wherein the first and second portions are held together in the normal configuration and are moved apart in the enlarged configuration.

~~10.~~9. The interface assembly of any one of Claims 5~~6~~-9~~8~~, wherein the front halo portion connects to each side of the mask at a first location, wherein the headgear further comprises straps on each side of the headgear that each connect to a respective side of the mask at a second location spaced from the first location.

~~11.~~10. The interface assembly of Claim 9~~10~~, wherein the first and second locations are upper and lower locations, respectively.

~~12.~~11. The interface assembly of any one of Claims 5~~6~~-10~~11~~, wherein the headgear comprises a relatively stretchable portion and a relatively non-stretchable portion, and the interface assembly further ~~comprising~~ comprises strengthening features that are formed into or otherwise secured to the relatively stretchable portion of the headgear.

~~13. The interface assembly of Claim 1, wherein the seal is configured to seal around a mouth of a user and on an underside of a nose of the user.~~

~~14.~~12. The interface assembly of Claim ~~6~~5, wherein the headgear comprises a relatively stretchable portion and a relatively non-stretchable portion, wherein the relatively non-stretchable portion surrounds at least one of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion.

~~15. The interface assembly of Claim 6, wherein the headgear comprises a crown strap, the crown strap being common to the front halo portion and rear halo portion.~~

~~16.~~13. The interface assembly of Claim ~~6~~5~~,~~ wherein the crown strap comprises a central adjustment feature.

~~17.~~14. The interface assembly of Claim ~~16~~13, wherein the central adjustment feature is configured to adjust the circumference of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion.

~~18. The interface assembly of Claim 6, wherein the headgear comprises rigid ear loop portions, each portion extending in an arcuate manner behind the user's ears from below the ear to above the ear.~~

~~19.~~15. The interface assembly of Claim ~~18~~5, wherein the rigid ear loop portions encircle the user's ears.

~~20.~~16. The interface assembly of Claim ~~19~~15, wherein the headgear comprises a lower strap and an upper strap on each side to connect the mask to the headgear, the upper strap applying a force to the mask in a direction that facilitates or assists in sealing the mask against a bottom surface of the user's nose, and the lower strap facilitates or assists in rotational adjustment of the mask.

~~21.~~17. The interface assembly of Claim ~~18~~5, wherein ~~the headgear comprises a crown strap and a rear strap,~~ the rear strap ~~being~~ is configured to pass across the rear of the user's head, each of the crown strap and the rear strap being configured to extend in a generally radial direction from the ear loops and being oriented generally perpendicular to one another.

~~22. The interface assembly of Claim 6, wherein the headgear comprises a crown strap, which forms a part of each of the front halo portion and the rear halo portion, and a rear strap, which forms a part of the rear halo portion.~~