ASBESTOS CODE OF PRACTICE

REVIEWED NOVEMBER 25 2015 OH&S Code Part 4, Sections 31-38 and Schedule 1

1. THE HAZARD:

Asbestos is the generic name for a group of naturally occurring minerals characterized by a fibrous structure that includes the following minerals:

- Chrysotile (white asbestos)
- Crocidolite (bluish asbestos) most dangerous.
- Amosite (brown asbestos)
- Fibrous varieties of anthophyllite, tremolite and actinolite

Asbestos may cause LUNG SCARRING (ASBESTOSIS), LUNG LINING SCARRING (PLEURAL SCARRING), CANCER OF THE LUNG LINING (MESOTHELIOMA), AND/OR LUNG CANCER. The time lapse before disease becomes evident may be 10-55 years. Mesothelioma is almost always fatal as there is no cure. Workers who smoke have a 10-15 times greater risk of lung cancer from asbestos exposure than workers who do not smoke. The dangers to health arise from asbestos when the small fibers are breathed in and therefore must be airborne.

A good measure of the hazard posed by asbestos is its friability, which is the case with which it can be crumbled or pulverized. Products with "bound" asbestos do not pose a hazard unless they are cut, sawn, ground, or sanded.

2. WHERE IT HAS BEEN USED:

In the past, asbestos has been used in building, electrical and thermal insulation, asbestos cement products, pipe and duct covering, floor tiling, drywall joint filler, wall and ceiling panels, roofing materials, and asphalt. Some of the most common asbestos uses were: roofing materials, patching and spackling compound, brake pads and lining, cements, toasters and other heat-related household items, furnaces and furnace doors. Because of bans most buildings built since 2000 are asbestos free.

The most common persons afflicted with asbestos-related diseases, are construction workers, automobile mechanics, pipe fitters and ship builders.

Some uses of asbestos have been banned. Spraying of asbestos materials was banned in 1973. Certain pipe coverings, patching compounds, and artificial fireplace logs were banned in the mid 1970s. In 1979, sprayed-on asbestos decorations and asbestos-containing hairdryers were banned. In the automotive industry foreign vehicles still use asbestos in brake linings.

ASSURANCE
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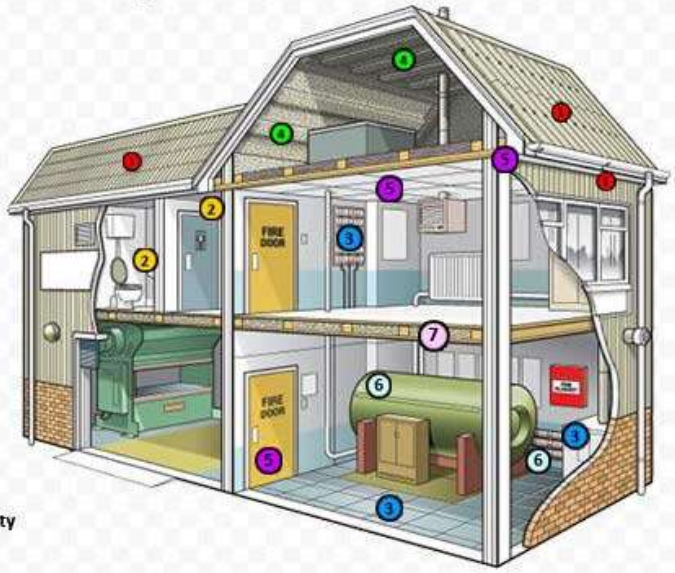
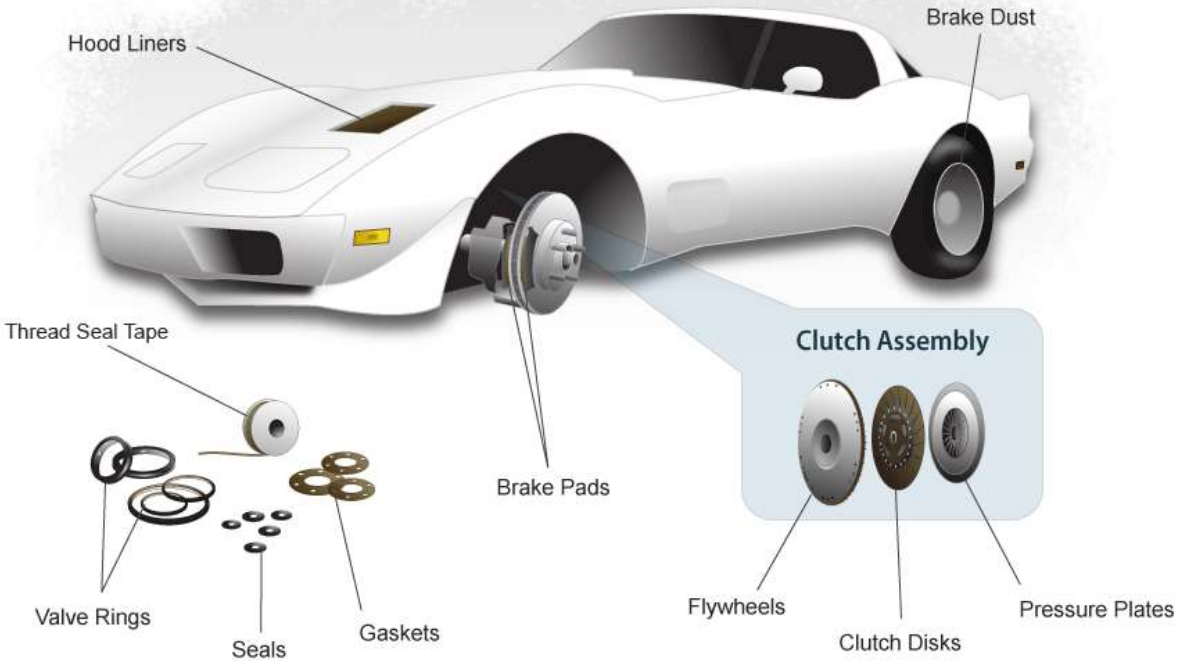
Asbestos Materials: Likely Locations

1. Asbestos Cement Products
2. Textured Coatings
3. Floor Tiles, Textiles & Composites
4. Sprayed coatings on walls, beams/columns
5. Asbestos insulating board
6. Lagging
7. Loose Asbestos in ceiling or floor cavity



Asbestos in Automobiles



3. OH&S Code Part 4 (31-38)

Release of asbestos

31(1) If it is determined that asbestos fibres may be released in a building, the building is in an unsafe condition.

31(2) The employer must take all necessary steps to correct the unsafe condition.

Prohibitions related to asbestos

32(1) A person must not use materials containing crocidolite asbestos in an existing or a new building.

32(2) A person must not apply materials containing asbestos by spraying them. Asbestos in air distribution systems

33 A person must not use asbestos in an air distribution system or equipment in a form in which, or in a location where, asbestos fibres could enter the air supply or return air systems.

Asbestos in a building to be demolished

34 If a building is to be demolished, the employer must ensure that materials with the potential to release asbestos fibres are removed first.

Encapsulation, enclosure or removal of asbestos 35 If a building is being altered or renovated, the employer must ensure that materials in the area of the alterations or renovations that could release asbestos fibres are encapsulated, enclosed or removed.

Notification of a project

36(1) An employer who is responsible for removing or abating asbestos or for demolishing or renovating a building or equipment containing asbestos must notify a Director of Inspection of the activity at least 72 hours before beginning the activities that may release asbestos fibres.

36(2) A person must not remove or abate asbestos or demolish or renovate a building or equipment containing asbestos if a Director of Inspection has not been notified in accordance with subsection (1).

Asbestos worker course

37(1) An employer must ensure that a worker who works with asbestos receives the training necessary for the worker to perform the work safely.

37(2) An employer must ensure that a worker who enters a restricted area that is designated as a restricted area due to the presence of asbestos(a) has successfully completed a course of instruction approved by a Director of Occupational Hygiene, and

(b) has in the worker's possession the original valid certificate of completion of the course issued to the worker.

Containment and labelling of asbestos waste

38(1) An employer must ensure that asbestos waste is stored, transported and disposed of in sealed containers that are impervious to asbestos and asbestos waste.

38(2) An employer must ensure that a container of an asbestos product and asbestos waste is clearly labelled

(a) to identify the contents as an asbestos product and carcinogenic, and

(b) to warn handlers that dust from the contents should not be inhaled.

Occupational Health and Safety Code 2009 Part 4

4-9

Use of crystalline silica in abrasive blasting

4. RESPONSIBILITIES:

Safety Officers, Project Managers, and Project Supervisors are responsible for the Asbestos program.

5. ASBESTOS SAFE JOB PROCEDURES

These safe job procedures should be followed regarding asbestos:

a. Before beginning work on an existing structure suspected of containing a hazardous material such as asbestos, an assessment and written report by professional consultants trained in the identification and treatment of hazardous materials must be obtained for the site

ASSURANCE must contract out the abatement and/or removal of hazardous materials such as asbestos to qualified contractors

Note: ASSURANCE will not use its workers to remove hazardous materials.

Before ASSURANCE workers enter parts of buildings that contained hazardous materials, a written clearance must be obtained from the consultant monitoring the hazardous material removal

b. If workers discover a material they believe to be asbestos, they must cease work, seal it, leave the area, and notify their Supervisor immediately.

Upon notification of the possible presence of a hazardous material, the Supervisor must take a number of actions, including:

- Alerting workers to the presence of the material

- Removing workers from the environment where exposure may occur
- Contact Management to arrange inspection and removal of suspect material by qualified professionals

Management must arrange for asbestos removal professionals to inspect the hazard and provide written instructions as to the required abatement and safe work practices.

6. APPENDIX

Common Asbestos Minerals

Serpentine	
chrysotile	$(Mg,Fe)_3Si_2O_5(OH)_4$
Amphiboles	
tremolite	$Ca_2(Mg,Fe)_5Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$
actinolite	$Ca_2(Mg,Fe)_5Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$
cummingtonite	$(Mg,Fe^{2+})_7Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$
grunerite	$(Mg,Fe^{2+})_7Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$
riebeckite	$Na_2(Mg,Fe^{2+})_3Fe^{3+}{}_2Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$
anthophyllite	$(Mg,Fe^{2+})_7Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$
crocidolite	$Na_2Fe^{2+}{}_3Fe^{3+}{}_2Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$