

# Sealing, Painting, Coating and Cleaning Asbestos Cement Products

Issue date: 1/12/09  
Review date: 1/12/12

<b>SWMS number:</b> SMS-06-SW-0115	<b>SWMS Name:</b> Sealing, Painting, Coating and Cleaning Asbestos Cement Products			<b>SWMS Team:</b> Asbestos Project Group Principal OHS Adviser Occupational Hygienist OHS Consultant Safety Representative
<b>Custodian:</b> Principal OHS Adviser	<b>Assumptions:</b> Only to be carried out on good condition Asbestos Cement products. A Hazardous Materials/Asbestos Risk Assessment must have been carried out to determine treatment of the Asbestos Containing Material as an appropriate control as per <a href="#">SMS-06-GD-0228 Hazardous Materials</a> and <a href="#">SMS-06-PR-0104 Workplace Risk Management</a>			<b>Content reviewed by Technical expert (SME) and RailCorp safety professional</b>
<b>Approving Authority:</b> GM Safety Risk	<b>Plant/Equipment/Tools:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bucket of water</li> <li>• rags</li> <li>• duct tape</li> <li>• asbestos waste bags</li> <li>• sealant/paint</li> <li>• asbestos vacuum cleaner fitted with HEPA filter</li> </ul>	<b>Records/Reporting:</b> Nil	<b>Permits/licences required:</b> Nil	Senior Safety Adviser, S&E Group
<b>Applicable Standards, Codes of Practice and guidance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OHS Reg Cl 43, 259 – 261</li> <li>• NOHSC CoP for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2005</li> <li>• NOHSC CoP for the Management and Control of Asbestos in Workplaces 2005</li> <li>• WorkCover NSW CoP Electrical Practices for Construction Work</li> <li>• WorkCover NSW CoP for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances</li> </ul>	<b>Inspection requirements</b> Inspect AC products to ensure good condition prior to commencing  Vacuum cleaner to be tested and tagged monthly.  Visual inspection of electrical leads and HEPA filter for damage and condition before use  Clearance inspection of area following cleaning and decontamination	<b>Service schedule:</b> NA  <b>MIMS or METRE Ref:</b> NA	<b>Training/Qualifications required:</b> All workers to be trained in safe maintenance work on asbestos containing materials (TAFE course or equivalent).	<b>PPE required:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• P1 or P2 dust mask minimum respiratory protection</li> <li>• disposable coveralls with fitted hoods and cuffs</li> <li>• boots without laces</li> <li>• boot covers</li> <li>• fall arrest harness as applicable</li> </ul>

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1	Review site conditions prior to commencement	Site specific hazards Unfamiliar location Workers unaware of safe work practices	C-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake pre-work briefing using the <a href="#">Pre-work Briefing form</a></li> <li>All workers sign the SWMS sign off sheet</li> <li>Attach completed <a href="#">Pre-work Briefing form</a> to this SWMS</li> </ul>	D	Supervisor	<a href="#">SMS-06-FM-0163 Pre-work briefing form</a>
		Conditions may be inappropriate, eg too windy, too many people around, too wet, etc	C+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start work <b>only</b> when conditions are appropriate no wind or rain</li> <li>Prevent working when there are numerous persons in close proximity</li> </ul>	D	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	
		Asbestos cement products may not be in good condition. If asbestos cement sheeting is so weathered that its surface is cracked or broken, the asbestos cement matrix may be eroded, increasing the likelihood that asbestos fibres will be released	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspect AC products to ensure good condition prior to starting work –</li> <li>Commence work if asbestos cement sheeting is in good condition and not friable.</li> </ul>	C-	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	
2	Establish work area	Unauthorised persons enter work zone	C-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place warning signs, barriers and tape at all entry points to the work area.</li> </ul>	D	Supervisor	
		Area not prepared to enable easy cleaning and decontamination	C-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stick down plastic sheeting with duct tape to cover any surfaces within asbestos work area.</li> </ul>	D	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	
		Unprepared to deal with waste	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make sure marked asbestos waste bags are available.</li> </ul>	D	Supervisor	

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3	Commence work	Working at heights	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where required use portable ladders, scaffolds and elevated work platforms according to the relevant SWI</li> <li>Attach and secure fall arrest system as appropriate and in accordance with the relevant SWI.</li> </ul>	C-	Supervisor, employees and contractors	<a href="#">SMS-06-GD-0240 Work at heights</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-GD-0252 Working on Roofs</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0264 Portable Ladders, Stepladders and Step Platforms</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0282 Scaffolds</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0310 Elevating Work Platforms</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0254 Fall Arrest Systems (Anchorages)</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0255 Fall Arrest Systems (Fall Arrest Devices)</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0256 Fall Arrest Systems (Harness, Lanyards and Attachment)</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0257 Fall Arrest Systems (Industrial Rope Access Systems)</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0260 Fall Arrest Systems (Selection and Use of Pole Straps)</a>

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4	Commence work	Release of asbestos fibres	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not use high-pressure water cleaning methods</li> <li>Do not prepare surfaces using dry sanding methods. Where sanding is required consider removing the ACM and replacing it with a non-asbestos product</li> <li>Wet sanding methods may be used to prepare the ac material, provided precautions are taken to ensure all the runoff is captured, and filtered where possible</li> <li>Wipe dusty surfaces with a damp cloth.</li> <li>When using a bucket of water, do not resoak used rags in the bucket, Fold the rag so a clean surface is exposed or use another rag</li> <li>Do not use a high pressure spray to apply the paint/solvents when using a spray brush</li> <li>Apply coating using paint roller lightly to avoid abrasion or other damage.</li> </ul>	C+	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	Hazardous substance risk assessment for paint/solvents <a href="#">SMS-06-GD-0199 Guide to Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Substances</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-FM-0202 Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Substances risk assessment form</a>
5	Application of paints/solvents	Exposure to hazardous substances	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of hazardous substances in accordance with the relevant MSDS and undertake hazardous substances risk assessment prior to use.</li> <li>Attach completed hazardous substance risk assessment and MSDS to this SWMS</li> </ul>	C-	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	Hazardous substance risk assessment for all hazardous substances MSDS for the hazardous substances <a href="#">SMS-06-GD-0198 Dangerous Goods &amp; Hazardous Substances Risk Assessment</a>

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6	Decontaminate area and equipment	Asbestos fibres left in work area	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean the equipment using damp rags</li> <li>Clean the work area using damp rags and/or an asbestos vacuum cleaner</li> <li>Place debris, used rags, plastic sheeting and other waste in the asbestos waste bags</li> <li>Wet wipe external surfaces of asbestos waste bags/container to remove any adhering dust</li> <li>Remove asbestos waste from work area and dispose of in accordance with EPA requirements.</li> </ul>	C-	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	
7	Using asbestos vacuum cleaner	Possible electric shock/electrocution	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vacuum cleaner must have in date tag and earth leakage device</li> <li>Inspect leads for damage prior to use</li> </ul>	D	Supervisor, all site employees and contractors	<a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0274 Electrical Equipment Selection Inspection &amp; Testing</a> <a href="#">SMS-06-SW-0266 Workplace Electrical Hazards</a>
8	Bagging waste	Release of fibres	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fill the disposal bag <b>only</b> to half full</li> <li>Evacuate air from the waste bag gently to prevent release of dust</li> <li>Twist the neck of the bags tightly, fold the neck over and secure it in the folded position with adhesive tape</li> <li>Clean the external surface by wet wiping to remove any adhering dust</li> <li>Double bag the waste immediately when outside the work area and following decontamination.</li> </ul>	C-	Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	
9	Decontaminate personnel	Asbestos fibres present on personnel or clothing	B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove, all visible asbestos dust/residue from protective clothing, using an asbestos vacuum cleaner and/or wet wiping.</li> </ul>	C-	Supervisor, all site employees and contract	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take off disposable coveralls (while still using a respirator), place in an asbestos waste bag and dispose of as asbestos waste</li> <li>Vacuum clothing and footwear using an asbestos vacuum cleaner, and wet wipe footwear</li> <li>Discard disposable respirators as asbestos waste. Non-disposable respirators should be removed and thoroughly cleaned</li> <li>Wash head, face and hands after removing the respirator, paying particular attention to fingernails.</li> </ul>		employees	
10	Conduct clearance inspection	Area not in fit condition for return to usual service	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competent person (independent of work done) to conduct visual inspection to make sure area has been properly cleaned</li> <li>Remove warning signs and barriers</li> </ul>	D	Competent person or controller of work area Supervisor, all site employees and contract employees	

## **Sealing, Painting, Coating and Cleaning Asbestos Cement Products**

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**NOTE: Each work group or team member must sign off on the SWMS to acknowledge they have been briefed about or instructed in the SWMS**

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RailCorp Level 2 Risk Matrix - Regional & Local (Workplace)		Likelihood/Frequency							Definition for Use - Regional & Local level (Workplace)
		Event Frequency	Less than once every 1000 years	Once every 100 to 1,000 years	Once every 10 to 100 years	Once every 1 to 10 years	More than once per year up to and including 10 times per year	More than 10 times per year	
Consequence	Historical (Likelihood)	Unheard of in the rail industry	Has occurred once or twice in the rail industry	Has occurred many times in the rail industry, but not in NSW	Has occurred once or twice in NSW	Has occurred frequently in NSW	Has occurred frequently at specific locations	As an example, the Level 2 scale would be used when examining the risk of slips, trips and falls on specific RailCorp platforms within a region or at a particular station, or the risk of fire within a depot.	
	Workplace Predictive (Likelihood)	Not expected to occur	May occur only in exceptional circumstances	Could occur at some time but not likely	You would expect it to occur at least once in the next 10 years performing similar activities	You would expect it to occur at least once this year performing similar activities	You would expect it to occur at least once this month performing similar activities		
		F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6		There are 3 options for descriptors which can be used to determine the frequency category. One set of descriptors is provided for frequency, one for historical likelihood, and one for predictive likelihood in the workplace. Choose the most appropriate.
>10 Fatalities	C6	Disastrous	B-	B+	A	A	A	A	
2-10 Fatalities	C5	Catastrophic	C+	B-	B+	A	A	A	
1 Fatality (2-10 Major Injuries)	C4	Critical	C-	C+	B-	B+	A	A	To score the risk, follow the steps:
1 Major Injury	C3	Major	D	C-	C+	B-	B+	A	
1 or more Minor Injuries	C2	Minor	D	D	C-	C+	B-	B+	1. Identify the magnitude of the credible consequence if the risk were to occur. If applicable, risks should be considered in terms of the safety (this matrix), commercial and environmental impact (using other matrices).
First aid treatment, or illness/injury not requiring treatment	C1	Negligible	D	D	D	C-	C+	B-	