

The Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics is located in Groton, Connecticut on the Thames River. Electric Boat has built submarines since the early 1900's. Over 20,000 people have been building nuclear submarines and overhauling submarines for the last 25 years.

Until the early 1970's, nuclear submarines were constructed with large amounts of asbestos insulation on pipes, equipment and components. Asbestos insulation was installed by pipe ladders or pipecoverers. Other trades also used asbestos including:

- Welders
- Burners
- Braziers
- Shipfitters
- Leadbonders
- Machinists
- Pipefitters
- Carpenters
- Electricians

All trades, however, work in, near or about ladders or other trades using asbestos. Therefore, almost all trades in the shipyard have had asbestos exposure.

In 1975, the pipe ladders numbered about 100 employees. Other trades would pass through the areas where ladders were