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Interior Asbestos Sheetrock Removal

OSHA REQUIREMENTS

SUMMARY

Applies where OSHA classifies material as ACM, but DPH and EPA do not classify as ACM.

A. OF 29 CFR 1926.1101 CORE REQUIREMENTS PLUS CLASS II REQUIREMENTS:

1. An assessment must be done by a competent person.

2. Must be done in a regulated area. Demarcation is required including signs and separation of area.

(2) Demarcation. The regulated area shall be demarcated in any manner that minimizes the number of persons within the area and protects persons outside the area from exposure to airborne asbestos. Where critical barriers or negative pressure enclosures are used, they may demarcate the regulated area. Signs shall be provided and displayed pursuant to the requirements of paragraph (k)(7) of this section.

3. Competent person must supervise and inspect the job, AHERA supervisor or equivalent.

4. Disposal in sealed, labeled, impermeable bags.

5. Medical surveillance for 30 days in Class II work or over PEL or if negative pressure respirators are used.

6. Personal daily monitoring will be generally needed for each job unless steady state conditions with the same crew show <PEL.

7. Training is needed and must be AHERA training unless the material can be removed substantially intact.

8. HEPA vacuums and wet methods must be used unless infeasible.

9. Prompt cleanup and disposal in leak tight containers.

10. Criticals and drop cloths unless removed substantially intact.

Intact means that the ACM has not crumbled, been pulverized, or otherwise deteriorated so that the asbestos is no longer likely to be bound with its matrix.

OSHA DEFINES CRITICALS AS FOLLOWS: Critical barrier means one or more layers of plastic sealed over all openings into a work area or any other similarly placed physical barrier sufficient to prevent airborne asbestos in a work area from migrating to an adjacent area.

11. Respirators needed if not intact

12. ½ face respirators and protective suits needed if no NEA

13. Decon needed if no NEA.

14. Multi-employer worksite provisions apply

(d) Multi-employer worksites. (1) On multi-employer worksites, an employer performing work requiring the establishment of a regulated area shall inform other employers on the site of the nature of the employer's work with asbestos and/or PACM, of the existence of and requirements pertaining to regulated areas, and the measures taken to ensure that employees of such other employers are not exposed to asbestos.

15. No smoking, eating, etc.

16. Local exhaust ventilation equipped with HEPA filter dust collection systems;

17. Enclosure or isolation of processes producing asbestos dust.

18. Ventilation of the regulated area to move contaminated air away from the breathing zone of employees and toward a filtration or collection device equipped with a HEPA filter;

19. Prohibitions.

(i) High-speed abrasive disc saws that are not equipped with point of cut ventilator or enclosures with HEPA filtered exhaust air.

(ii) Compressed air used to remove asbestos, or materials containing asbestos, unless the compressed air is used in conjunction with an enclosed ventilation system designed to capture the dust cloud created by the compressed air.

(iii) Dry sweeping, shoveling or other dry clean-up of dust and debris containing ACM and PACM.

(iv) Employee rotation as a means of reducing employee exposure to asbestos.

20. Critical barriers and drop cloths Unless there is a NEA

21. The material shall be thoroughly wetted with amended water prior to and during its removal.

22. The material shall be removed in an intact state unless the employer demonstrates that intact removal is not possible.

23. Cutting, abrading or breaking the material shall be prohibited unless the employer can demonstrate that methods less likely to result in asbestos fiber release are not feasible.

24. Asbestos-containing material removed, shall be immediately bagged or wrapped, or kept wetted until transferred to a closed receptacle, no later than the end of the work shift.

B. CORE REQUIREMENTS OF 29 CFR 1926.57 (a)

1 Local exhaust ventilation is required for hazardous substances.

2. Constant operation of local ventilation is required during work and afterwards.

3. Local exhausts must be discharged outside.