

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS BULLETIN

DATE	BULLETIN TITLE	RESPONSIBLE DEPT	BULLETIN NO
10/14/86	Industrial Hygiene	Employee Health Services	4c
SUBJECT	SUPERSEDES	DATED	
ASBESTOS EXPOSURE MONITORING	Same	2/10/84	

Air sampling to determine exposures to asbestos fibers is required by the OSHA Asbestos Standard for General Industry (29 CFR 1910.1001):

"Determinations of employee exposures shall be made from breathing zone air samples representative of 8-hour time-weighted average of each employee. Representative 8-hour TWA employee exposures shall be determined on the basis of one or more air samples representing full-shift exposures for each shift for each employee in every job classification in each work area. Employers shall perform initial monitoring of employees who are or may reasonably be expected to be exposed to airborne concentrations above the action level."

Major maintenance activities with the potential for releasing airborne asbestos fibers are insulation repair and brake and clutch servicing. Sampling of these operations is required. Insulation repair and removal is addressed by the OSHA asbestos construction standard; brake and clutch repair is covered by the OSHA asbestos general industry standard (Appendix F).

Exceptions to general industry standard exist if monitoring was conducted since December 20, 1985 or if it can be shown asbestos will not be released above the action level by expected processing, use, or handling conditions.

The OSHA Asbestos Standard for Construction (29 CFR 1926.58) requires the same initial monitoring with the same exceptions as in the asbestos general industry standard. A notable difference is that when exposures exceed the action level, daily monitoring must be conducted unless employees use positive-pressure air-supplied respirators (e.g. full-facepiece, continuous-flow airline respirator).

The plant safety or environmental control engineer who has been trained in air sampling procedures or a reputable industrial hygiene consultant should perform sampling required under these OSHA standards. The Industrial Hygiene Laboratory should be consulted (313/59-46955) to assist with coordinating air sampling and fiber counting. Industrial Hygiene will submit a report of results and review and forward the consultant's report to management. Plant personnel who obtain air samples must complete an air sampling training course, review air sampling procedures in OSHA asbestos standard appendix, and have seen Industrial Hygiene videotapes on air sampling techniques.

Equipment required for air sampling is listed in Industrial Hygiene Bulletin 2. This must be supplemented with a filter required by the revised OSHA standards:

0.8 micron pore size aerosol analysis monitors (Includes 3-piece filter holder; 25 mm white, plain filters; 50 mm cowl; filter support pads; and cassette plugs) Catalog no. MAWP 025AC at \$120 per package of 50.

Order from: Millipore Corporation
Order Service Department
Bedford, MA 01730
617/275-9200

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