

WJ 3/25



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The following pages briefly outline the requirements for a respirator program for employees engaged in work operations above hung ceilings containing asbestos. Some booklets designed for the employee distributed by NIOSH are enclosed also.

Please call if you should have any questions.

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MH-8685-VRC-sma

Attachment
As above

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LLA 001644

Respirator Program for Employees Working
in Hung Ceilings with Asbestos Insulation

I. Introduction - Establish need for a Program

To establish a respirator program to protect those individuals performing work in hung ceilings containing asbestos, a number of requirements must be fulfilled (see OSHA CFR 1910.134).

NOTE: Respirators are intended to be used only when acceptable engineering control measures designed to keep dust to a minimum are not feasible or when they are being instituted.

- 1) The first requirement is the written program stating standard operating procedures.

A Program Administrator should be appointed to perform the various duties associated with the program.

- 2) The second requirement of the program is the proper selection of a respirator. The respirator selected must be appropriate in terms of both type of hazard as well as degree of hazard.

The 3M 9910 respirator has been approved by NIOSH-MSHA for asbestos bearing dusts.

- 3) The third requirement is the instruction and training in the proper use of respirators and their limitations. The 3M 9910 for example is approved for dusts and mists with a TWA not less than 0.05 mg/m^3 . The user should be aware of this respirator's inability to protect against vapors and gases. This respirator is not approved for arsenic and metal fume. The 3M 9910 is a disposable single use respirators. It should not be worn for more than one day, and should be changed more frequently, if needed.

Fitting instructions must be clearly demonstrated. Even a simple mask such as the 9910 must be donned correctly to be effective. Both straps must be used. Facial hair must not interfere with the mask's seal to the face.

The 3M 9910 has a protection factor of 5. This means it cannot be used in atmospheres containing concentrations of the contaminant in excess of 5 times the permissible exposure limit.

- (4-7) Other non-disposable respirators require special cleaning, maintenance and storage requirements which will not be covered here.
- 8) The next requirement is that appropriate surveillance of the work area conditions and degree of employee exposure or stress be maintained.
- 9) There shall be regular inspection and evaluation to determine the continued effectiveness of the respirator program.
- 10) Persons requiring respirators shall be determined physically able to wear them. The local physician shall determine what health and physical conditions are pertinent. Medical records should be established for these individuals.
- 11) Approved respirators shall be used. The 3M 9910 as mentioned earlier has a NIOSH-MSHA approval.

APPENDIX C

ASBESTOS SAMPLE COLLECTION

C.1 BULK ASBESTOS SAMPLE COLLECTION

A bulk sample is collected to determine whether the ceiling or other construction material contains any asbestos mineral. Use a small sealable glass or plastic-capped container. Holding the container as far as possible from the face, obtain a full thickness core sample of the sprayed material by penetrating the surface with the container using a twisting motion. Any surface coating such as paint on a cement material must be penetrated. The container is then capped, wiped, and sealed with tape. Labeling should include building identification, address, building type, sample source location, and date. Disturbance of the material other than at the sampling point should be kept to a minimum. A respirator approved for asbestos dust will insure protection while performing this work. Repeat the procedure at several adjacent sites.