

Asbestos

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all approaches and entrances to the work areas affected;

9. Arrange for medical examinations as required by appropriate regulatory agencies; and

10. Retain all records for at least 20 years.

Other Precautions

The agencies estimate that there are 2,000 to 3,000 separate and unrelated products that contain asbestos, but in general, there are three areas in basic metal operations where asbestos may be present:

- In products manufactured: such as clutch plates, brake discs and bands, and gaskets.

- In buildings, around furnaces and boilers, in insulation of steam or hot water pipes, in patching materials used to repair hot jobs or machinery, and around asbestos material-handling operations.

- In foundries, in some protective clothing, such as gloves, jackets and hoods, and around furnaces, ladles and hot jobs.

It is suggested that substitute materials be used whenever possible in production parts, insulating or patching materials and clothing.

If substitution of an alternate to asbestos is not possible, then engineering means are needed to control exposure. These might be ventilation or collection systems.

In collection systems, the fibers must be collected and disposed of properly. For operations where limited or periodic exposure takes use "wet" materials or processes rather than dry.

There should be no smoking, eat-

ing or drinking in any asbestos-contaminated area.

Older Building Hazards

Many older buildings have asbestos insulation or pipes wrapped with asbestos insulation. In the event that any building which has friable asbestos materials within it is renovated or demolished, a written notification must be sent to the EPA administration at least 20 days prior to commencement of the work.

If you are planning such a move, please notify your corporate safety department at least one month prior, so that the appropriate notification to EPA is initiated. If the inspection uncovers any asbestos usage, the applicable OSHA standard is 1910.1001 for determining compliance.

Whenever work is done in these areas, the following steps are recommended:

1. Asbestos material should be wetted down prior to being torn apart to prevent fibers from dispersing into the air.

2. The employees must be trained in the proper procedures to be used, and made aware of the hazards of asbestos.

3. Special precautions must be taken if clothing becomes contaminated with asbestos. Plastic bags, labeled with appropriate asbestos warning labels, must be used to transport or discard such clothing. These clothes must not be mixed with other work or dress clothing.

4. Approved vacuuming equipment that will not recirculate the asbestos dust must be available to clean up the fibers when the work is finished.

5. The work area must be barricaded off and warning signs must be posted.

6. The correct protective equipment must be worn at all times.

7. Replaced insulation or patching material should be a non-asbestos type.

8. The work should be done during low exposure times, such as third shift or on weekends.

After your company has made a thorough inspection of its plants, individual "asbestos action plans" should be developed. Readers are invited to submit their own plans to the ATM Executive Committee for review and further recommendations.

—ATM Member Company

Vehicle's Color Contributes to Visibility

"You can have any color you want as long as it is black" is a quotation attributed to the late Henry Ford regarding the limited color selection a customer had when buying a new automobile. And for many years, black was the only color used for motor vehicles. Fortunately, attitudes change and automobiles are now manufactured in a rainbow of colors.

Because of their color, certain vehicles are usually recognized easily by other drivers and pedestrians. The most noticeable colors, listed in order of visibility, are shown below:

1. Luminous orange
2. White
3. Light yellow
4. Light orange
5. Dark yellow
6. Light gray
7. Light blue
8. Light red

9. Light brown
10. Light green
11. Dark gray
12. Dark red
13. Dark blue
14. Dark brown
15. Black
16. Dark green

In recent years, much attention has been focused on "underride accidents." In an underride accident, a truck or passenger car drives under another truck or trailer on the highway. A recent study by the University of Michigan's Highway Safety Research Institute found that most car-truck fatal crashes occur at night. Inclement weather is a minor contributor to these accidents, but low visibility at night is a major factor. The collisions studied were almost always surprise events in that the passenger car driver did not expect to find a

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