

Alcoa Asbestos Management Procedure
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ALCOA ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

BACKGROUND:

Asbestos is regulated in the United States under the U.S. EPA Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Occupational Safety and Health Act. These rules place strict limits on asbestos fiber exposure levels, asbestos fiber releases during demolition, asbestos usage in buildings, asbestos disposal, and the manufacture or impact of many products that contain asbestos. Strict asbestos management (or removal) programs are required in public schools and are being considered for public buildings.

On October 18, 1991, a U.S. Appeals Court vacated the Toxic Substances Control Act Section 6 Rules which ban the manufacture, use or impact of many asbestos-containing materials. The ultimate status of those rules and any future bans on asbestos products is uncertain. The action to date has no effect on Alcoa's Asbestos Management Procedure.

Alcoa has determined that asbestos can be managed in place in most construction and insulation applications with effective inspection, maintenance and replacement programs. In areas where high exposure potential exists (i.e., areas where high levels of maintenance are required) asbestos elimination is encouraged.

Since Alcoa loses control of asbestos maintenance programs when buildings and equipment are sold to others, it is in the Company's best long-term interest (i.e., minimization of potential future liability exposure, consistency with Alcoa's values) to remove all friable asbestos before sale. Accordingly, the sponsoring manager is required to have the material removed and replaced before the transfer is completed.

Likewise, when property or equipment is purchased, the seller should be required to identify all friable asbestos. The sponsoring manager is encouraged to have the material removed and replaced before the transfer is completed. This will prevent future problems for Alcoa, since the asbestos will ultimately have to be removed and disposed of as a special waste, or perhaps a hazardous waste.

Asbestos concerns are worldwide. Therefore, this is applicable to all Alcoa locations.

PROCEDURE:

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