

accelerating cause) by silicosis, anthraco-silicosis, or asbestosis, or by silicosis, anthraco-silicosis, or asbestosis, when accompanied by active pulmonary tuberculosis.

If it be shown that the employe, at or immediately before the date of disability, was employed in any occupation or industry in which the occupational disease is a hazard, it shall be presumed that the employe's occupational disease arose out of and in the course of his employment, but this presumption shall not be conclusive.

The employer liable for the compensation provided by this article shall be the employer in whose employment the employe was last exposed to the hazard of the occupational disease claimed, regardless of the length of time of such last exposure: Provided, That when a claimant alleges that disability or death was due to silicosis, anthraco-silicosis, asbestosis or any other occupational disease which developed to the point of disablement only after an exposure of five or more years, the only employer liable shall be the last employer in whose employment the employe was last exposed to the hazard of such occupational disease during a period of six months or more after the effective date of this act; and in such cases an exposure during a period of less than six months after the effective date of this act shall not be deemed an exposure. The notice of disability or death and claim shall be made to the employer who is liable under this subsection, and his insurance carrier, if any.

When compensation is awarded because of disability or death caused by silicosis, anthraco-silicosis, asbestosis, or any other occupational disease which developed to the point of disablement only after an exposure of five or more years, the compensation for disability or death due to such disease shall be paid jointly by the employer and the Commonwealth (out of moneys to the credit of the Occupational Disease Fund hereinafter created in the State Workmen's Insurance Fund), in accordance with the following provisions: If disability begins between October 1, 1939, and September 30, 1941, both dates inclusive, the employer shall be liable for and pay fifty per centum of the compensation due and the (Occupational Disease Fund) Commonwealth fifty per centum thereof. Thereafter, depending upon the date when disability begins, the proportions of compensation for which the employer and the (Occupational Disease Fund) Commonwealth shall respectively become liable shall be: If disability begins between October 1, 1941, and September 30, 1943, the employer sixty per centum and the (Occupational Disease Fund) Commonwealth forty per centum; if between October 1, 1943, and September 30, 1945, the employer seventy per centum and the (Occupational Disease Fund) Commonwealth thirty per centum; if between October 1, 1945, and September 30, 1947, the employer eighty per centum and the (Occupational Disease Fund) Commonwealth twenty per centum; if between October 1, 1947, and September 30, 1949, the employer ninety per centum and the (Occupational Disease Fund) Commonwealth ten per centum. The employer shall pay the full amount of compensation provided in this act for disability or death in all cases where disability begins on or after October 1, 1949.