

NIOSH

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health which was established by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970

Personal Sample

An air sample taken with the sampling pump directly attached to the worker with the collecting filter placed in the worker's breathing zone

Personal Protection

Notification and instruction of all workers prior to the beginning of a project as to the hazards associated with the job and what they can do the protect themselves from these hazards

PF

Protection factor as provided by a respirator which is determined by dividing the airborne fiber concentration outside of the mask by the concentration inside the mask

Phase Contrast Microscopy (PCM)

A microscopic technique used for the counting of fibers in air samples, but which does not distinguish fiber types

Pipe Lagging

The insulation or wrapping around a pipe

Pleura

The thin membrane surrounding the lungs, and which lines the internal surface of the chest cavity

Polarized Light Microscopy (PLM)

A microscopic technique used to distinguish between different types of asbestos fibers by their shape and unique optical properties

Polyethylene

Plastic sheeting which is often used to seal off an area in which asbestos removal is taken place for the purpose of preventing contamination of other areas

Posting

Refers to caution or warning signs which should be posted in any area in which asbestos removal is taking place, or where airborne fiber levels may present a health hazard

Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)

Either a full facepiece, helmet, or hood respirator that has the breathing air powered to the wearer after it has been purified through a filter

Pre-Construction Conference

A meeting held before any work between the contractor and the building owner at which time the job specifications are discussed and all detail of the work agreed upon

Pre-Employment Physical

Complete medical examination of an employee before the job begins to determine whether or not he/she is fit to perform the functions of their employment

Pressure Demand Airline Devices

A respiratory protection device which has a regulator and valve design such that there is a continuous flow of air into the facepiece at all times

Prevalent Levels

Levels of airborne contaminants occurring under normal conditions

Prevalent Samples

Air samples taken under normal conditions (background samples)

Progress Payments

A pre-work agreement whereby the building owner pays the contractor after completion of certain phases of the project

Protective Clothing

Protective, lightweight garments worn by workers performing asbestos abatement to keep gross contamination off the body

Pulmonary

Pertaining to, or affecting the lungs, or some portion thereof

Pulmonary Function Test

A part of the medical examination required to determine the health status of a person's lungs

Qualitative Fit Test

A method of testing a respirator's face-to-facepiece seal by covering the inhalation or exhalation valves and either breathing in or out to determine the presence of any leaks

