DRAFT

SAFETY BULLETIN



ASBESTOS

New federal regulations require that exposure to airborne asbestos "dust" be kept to an absolute minimum. For this reason it is required that all clean-up work involving asbestos be performed by use of a special vacuum cleaner. Air blow-offs and brooming or brush asbestos laden material is disallowed.

An approved vacuum cleaner can be secured from Sears Roebuck & Company: Craftsman 45-gallon Heavy-duty Industrial Vac with dolly and nozzle, Part No. 99KT 17831N, and accessory set, Part No. 9KT 16973.

Care must be exercised to assure that filter bags and filter covers are in proper position during use, ~~and~~ the vacuum unit must be emptied in accordance with the Safe Operating Procedure affixed to the unit. (Copy on reverse side of this Bulletin.)

Typical job functions requiring vacuum use:

- Garage mechanics and technicians cleaning automotive brake shoe assemblies
- Experimental work on automotive brake shoe linings
- Any other task requiring asbestos "dust" removal or clean-up

prepared by:
General Services Safety Activity
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SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

FOR

EMPTYING AND DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS CONTENTS

FROM INDUSTRIAL VACUUM UNITS

When it becomes necessary to empty the asbestos-laden contents of an Industrial Vacuum Unit the following procedure shall be maintained.

1. Approved dust respirators are to be worn by all persons engaged in emptying and disposal of materials from the shop vacuum unit. An approved respirator is Model No. 8710 available from 3M Company.

2. Contents of the vacuum drum must be washed out by flushing with water and allowing slurry to flow through the drain hole at base of unit.

3. Paper bag and cloth filter bags must be handled with extreme care in order to keep dust to a minimum.

4. Bags and asbestos-laden materials and waste must be placed in sealed impermeable bags or other closed impermeable containers for disposal.

5. All disposal containers must be clearly and legibly labelled "Caution - Contains Asbestos Fibres - Avoid Creating Dust - Breathing Asbestos Dust May Cause Serious Bodily Harm".

(A copy of this procedure is to be affixed to each shop vacuum unit used in asbestos work, and to be maintained in a legible condition.)

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