

• SPECIAL DEFINITION

ASBESTOS GLOSSARY

Ahera	Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. Federal legislation regulating asbestos in schools. Enacted October 30, 1987	Asbestos Fibers	Fibers with their length being greater than five microns (length to width ratio of 3:1), generated from an asbestos-containing material
Air Monitoring	The process of measuring the airborne fiber concentration of a specific quantity of air over a given amount of time.	"Blue Book"	EPA publication of March 1983 titled, "Guidance for Controlling Friable Asbestos-Containing Materials in Buildings"
Algorithm	A universally accepted procedure developed for the purpose of solving a particular problem	Bridging Encapsulant	The application of a sealant over the surface of asbestos-containing material to prevent the release of asbestos fibers
Ambient Air	The surrounding air or atmosphere in a given area under normal conditions	Chrysotile (white asbestos)	The only asbestiform of the serpentine variety which contains approximately 40% each of silica and magnesium oxide. It is the most common form of asbestos used in buildings
Amended Water	Water to which a chemical wetting agent (surfactant) has been added to improve penetration into asbestos-containing materials that are being removed	Cancer	A cellular tumor which normally leads to premature death of its host unless controlled
Asmosite	An asbestiform of the amphibole group containing approximately 50% silica and 40% iron (II) oxide, and is made up of straight, brittle fibers, light gray to pale brown in color	Carbon Monoxide	A highly toxic colorless and odorless gas
Amphibole	One of the two major varieties of rock from which the asbestiform minerals are derived, distinguished by their chain-like crystal structure and chemical composition	Ceiling Concentration	The maximum allowable level of toxic material that can be present at any given point in time
Approved Landfill	A site for the disposal of asbestos-containing and other hazardous wastes that has been given EPA approval	Cementitious	Asbestos-containing materials that are densely packed and nonfriable
Asbestiform	Fibrous materials which, due to their crystal structures and chemical composition, can be classified as a form of asbestos	CFM	Cubic feet per minute
Asbestos	A generic name given to a number of naturally occurring hydrated mineral silicates that possess a unique crystalline structure, are incombustible in air, and are separable into filaments	CIH	An industrial hygienist who has been granted certification by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene
		Clean Room	The first stage of the decontamination enclosure system in which workers prepare to enter the work area
		Clearance Air Sampling	Air sampling done at the end of an abatement job to determine if airborne fiber counts are at or below levels specified in the contract. Generally, a contractor is not released nor can buildings be reoccupied until fiber counts meet specified levels



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