XI. EXISTING PERMISSIBLE LIMITS

This chapter reviews existing permissible limits for exposure of workers and of the general public, as proposed and/or enforced in different states. Such a bird's eye view of existing limits may serve as a guide for the orientation with regard to public health risks of environmental exposure, to be discussed in chapter XII.

Workroom air

United Kingdom

Chrysotile, amosite, fibrous anthophyllite: 2.0 fibres/ml averaged over a four hour sampling period; 12 f/ml over a 10 min. sampling period. Crocidolite: 0.2 f/ml averaged over a 10 min. sampling period. Fibres mean particles with length >5 µm, length to breadth ration 3:1, observed by transmitted light by means of a microscope at magnification of appr. 500x (Techn. Data Note 13 (Rev) 1969).

Federal Republic of Germany

Chrysotile-fine dust 0.15 mg/m^3; chrysotile containing fine dust 4.0 mg/m^3, to be regarded as technical guide. (Komm. Prüfung gesundheitsschädlicher Arbeitsstoffe 1975). These values are under review, especially for chrosotile and for amosite.

Italy

5 fibres/ml, to be lowered to 2 fibres/ml.

France

Suggested by the INRS (Lardeux 1975):

- <2 fibres/cm^3: acceptable
- >2 -<12 fibres/cm^3: take a 4 hour sample
- if <2 fibres/cm^3: acceptable

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