

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

DATE: July 16, 1981

STANDARDS INTERPRETATION DIRECTIVE NO. 15 (Revision #2)

REFERENCED STANDARD: 29 CFR 1910.1001(j)(2), (3) or (4) as adopted
by 803 KAR 2:020

SUBJECT: Medical Examinations for Employees Exposed to Asbestos
Fibers

CANCELLATION: This directive supersedes revised SID No. 15 issued
December 1978.

Purpose:

To clarify the requirement for medical examination for employees exposed to asbestos fibers and to provide uniform inspection procedures.

Background:

The OSH Program has determined that violations of 29 CFR 1910.1001(j)(2), (3) or (4) exist when employees are exposed to a minimum of 0.1 asbestos fibers longer than 5 micrometers per cubic centimeter of air. (The phrase "fibers longer than 5 micrometers per cubic centimeters of air" shall hereafter be abbreviated as "fibers/cc.") However, for situations in which sampling of exposure is infeasible, violations may be based on evidence obtained as prescribed in paragraph (3)(D) of this directive.

Interpretation:

- A. Medical examinations as per 29 CFR 1910.1001(j)(2), (3) or (4) will be required for any 7- to 8-hour time-weighted average concentration of 0.1 fibers/cc, or for a greater concentration. If an employee refuses to take the required medical examination, an appropriate signed statement of refusal shall be maintained on file by the employer.

NOTE: Evidence shall be obtained from monitoring results from the employer (contractor) or other source (e.g., insurance company; company or plant for whom contracting work is being done; building owner/building management; other Federal, State or local agency), and shall indicate exposure levels above 0.1 fibers/cc of asbestos.

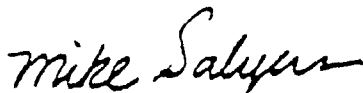
(2) Document, by employee, employee representative, and union interviews, that this work was performed routinely, on a repeated basis; or that the use or handling of asbestos was performed on an irregular basis, but employees were exposed to significant amounts of dust containing asbestos. In addition, obtain documentation from written employer information on these routine operations, if it exists.

(3) The violative conditions must have occurred at least within the previous 6 months.

E. Types of Violations. Violations of 29 CFR 1910.1001(j)(2), (3) or (4) will be classified in accordance with existing Program policy.

Effective Date:

This directive becomes effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.



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Technical Support



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