

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

49.

ASBESTOS - 49

ASBESTOS -- This subject demands your complete and undivided attention and this is why -- asbestos fibers are a proven cause of a variety of serious diseases such as Asbestosis (a chronic lung disease) -- lung cancer -- cancers of the colon, rectum, stomach, and esophagus, just to name a few.

Asbestos is a natural, fibrous mineral that has been used for thousands of years because of its ability to shield against fire and heat. In recent years, manufacturers have continually discovered new uses for asbestos, 2000 of which affected products used within the construction industry alone! To supply these manufacturers in the early 1970's required the production of some 800,000 tons of asbestos annually.

The good news is that in 1978 federal legislation banned the use of asbestos in all but a very few products -- the bad news is that we all have varying amounts of asbestos fibers in our bodies, and there is a continuing chance for additional exposure from the many products that still remain in existence, especially in construction.

If asbestos is discovered on your job, treat it with extreme caution -- evacuate the area immediately -- report the finding to your supervisor -- and barricade the contaminated area to keep everyone out. Asbestos removal should be performed only by those who have been properly trained and equipped, in strict compliance with OSHA Standard 1926.58 and E.P.A., state, local, and all other applicable regulations.

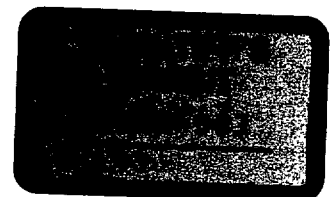
WARNING: WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE CAN KILL YOU! Asbestos fibers are minute in size, and once inhaled into your body do not dissolve -- they may lay dormant for as long as 35 years before they strike.

STOP SMOKING AND EXTEND YOUR LIFE!

SAFETY REMINDERS ONCE EXPOSED TO ASBESTOS YOUR CHANCE OF CONTRACTING LUNG
CANCER INCREASES 50 TIMES JUST BY SMOKING ONE PACK OF CIGARETTES DAILY.

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____



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