

Colt Industries



Garlock Inc
Mechanical Packing Division
Industrial Packing
1666 Division Street
Palmyra, New York 14522
315 597-4811

Gentlemen:

This is in regard to the handling of Garlock products containing asbestos in general and compressed asbestos sheet in particular.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has published a regulation covering the safe handling of asbestos and asbestos products (29CFR 1910.1001). A portion of this regulation states that "Caution labels shall be affixed to all raw materials, mixtures, scrap, waste, debris and other products containing asbestos fibers, or to their containers, except that no label is required where asbestos fibers have been modified by a bonding agent, coating, binder or other material so that during any reasonably foreseeable use, handling, storage, disposal, processing or transportation, no airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers in excess of the exposure limits prescribed in paragraph (b) of this section will be released."

All of our asbestos containing products are currently carrying the OSHA warning label so that our customers will be alerted to the fact that the products they are receiving do contain asbestos. This is being done even though products like compressed asbestos sheet contain a binder which performs a bonding function and tends to inhibit the generation of free asbestos fiber. We consider the possibility of release of fibers in the case of products like compressed asbestos sheet remote under normal handling and use.

It is, of course, impossible for us to know of all uses our customers (or the customers of our customers) may make of our products. If, for instance, a customer was to perform certain unusual operations like power wire brushing or disc grinding, or if the compressed asbestos sheet were used as a pile driver pad, it is possible that there might be a release of asbestos sufficient to exceed that specified in 29CFR 1910.1001.

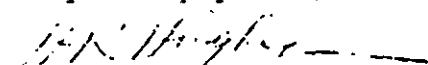
The user should, therefore, refer to 29CFR 1910.1001 for information on handling asbestos and monitoring the release of asbestos fibers.

OSHA Regulation 29CFR 1910.1001 is contained in Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations - Labor (Parts 1900-1919). This publication is available from:

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D. C. 20402

We hope that this information will be helpful to you.

Very truly yours,


Harold R. Hughes
Senior Chemist

HRH:mop

