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INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS BULLETIN

DATE	BULLETIN TITLE	RESPONSIBLE DEPT.	BULLETIN NO.
7/18/75	Industrial Hygiene	Employe Health Services	4
	Asbestos - OSHA 1910.93(a)	SUPERSEDES: New	DATED:

Effective July 7, 1972, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Department of Labor promulgated regulations addressing employe exposure to asbestos. "Asbestos" as defined in the standard includes chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite, tremolite, anthophyllite, and actinolite. The standard applies to operations where asbestos or asbestos-containing materials such as but not necessarily limited to asbestos cement, mortar, coating, grout, plaster or similar materials are handled, mixed, applied, removed, cut, scored or otherwise worked.

Exposure limits applying to asbestos fibers longer than 5 microns are as follows:

a. Effective 7/7/72 - An 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) not to exceed 5 fibers per cubic centimeter of air.

b. Effective 7/1/76 - An 8-hour TWA not to exceed 2 fibers per cubic centimeter of air.

c. A "Ceiling Concentration" of 10 fibers, above which no employe shall be exposed at any time.

Monitoring requirements are such that in areas where asbestos fibers are released a determination shall be made as to whether every employe's exposure to asbestos fibers is below the limits addressed above. Such sampling shall be done at intervals of no greater than 6 months in cases where employe exposure to asbestos "may reasonably be foreseen to exceed the limits prescribed..."

Controls and requirements for those operations in which employes are exposed to concentrations in excess of the exposure limits include:

a. personal protective equipment
b. local exhaust ventilation
c. specific work practices
d. change rooms
e. labels and placards
f. specific cleaning and waste disposal techniques
g. employe notification
h. medical examinations
i. recordkeeping

Copies of complete standard are available from:

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

Further information regarding this standard may be obtained from Industrial Hygiene, 322-0210.

