

Concerns: OSHA Standard 1910.1001--ASBESTOS

cc To: DEK
MAR
DNC
06
7-12

(j) Medical examinations--(1) General.

The employer shall provide or make available at his cost, medical examinations relative to exposure to asbestos required by this paragraph.

(2) Preplacement.

The employer shall provide or make available to each of his employees, within 30 calendar days following his first employment in an occupation exposed to airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers, a comprehensive medical examination, which shall include, as a minimum, a chest roentgenogram (posterior-anterior 14 x 17 inches), a history to elicit symptomatology of respiratory disease, and pulmonary function tests to include forced vital capacity (FVC) and forced expiratory volume at 1 second (FEV_{1.0}).

(3) Annual examinations.

On or before January 31, 1973, and at least annually thereafter, every employer shall provide, or make available, comprehensive medical examinations to each of his employees engaged in occupations exposed to airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers. Such annual examination shall include, as a minimum, a chest roentgenogram (posterior-anterior 14 x 17 inches), a history to elicit symptomatology of respiratory disease, and pulmonary function tests to include forced vital capacity (FVC) and forced expiratory volume at 1 second (FEV_{1.0}).

Based on the OSHA Standard on Asbestos and our recent OSHA inspection, the following concerns need to be addressed:

1. Should all crafts and operators be given annual examinations which include x-ray, pulmonary function test, and written questionnaire?

Answer: Yes, if they're expected to remove insulation containing asbestos in the course of their job. This would exclude groups such as lab analysts, stores, guards, pumper gaugers, and other units or crafts as established by the line.

NOTE: If we do this, it will increase the number of employees by factor of about 20 fold that may at some future date claim injury due to asbestos exposure. DMEH recommends we minimize the number of such employees. *It will also increase the cost of the program.*

2. On the 18 pipefitters who recently reported exposure to asbestos, should we give them a x-ray, pulmonary function test, and baseline examination?

Answer: Yes, any abnormalities found would be evidence that the cause of the abnormality was other than a recent incident.

3. Currently, we have no written documentation that an employee has refused to get an x-ray exam or that it was even offered.

Recommend system to be changed to have employee sign document that he has refused x-ray. If employee refuses to sign, medical would sign in his presence that he has refused.

**PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT**

MON-307

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NOTE: If we do this, it will increase the number of employees by factor of about 20 fold that may at some future date claim injury due to asbestos exposure. DMEH recommends we minimize the number of such employees. *It will also increase the compensation payable.*

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