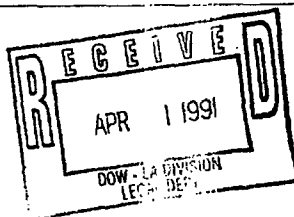


**Dow U.S.A.**

The Dow Chemical Company
P.O. Box 150
Plaquemine, Louisiana 70765-0150

March 27, 1991



Dave King B-4103
Jim DeVillier B-4109
Bob Norman, Jr. B-4301
Ronnie Touchet B-4601

Chris Messelt B-6601
Tim Gunn B-1701
Jeff Bock B-4610

At our February 25, 1991 meeting, the item pertaining to Asbestos Gaskets is being handled by Bob Pierce. Bob, in working with Dow's Industrial Hygiene, put together the enclosed procedure.

This procedure will be covered at the Contract Supervisor's Meeting to be held on April 1, 1991. The Supervisors will then discuss this procedure with "all" contract craftsmen at the next tail-gate safety meeting.

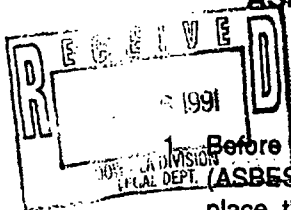

Lester Poirrier
Maintenance Superintendent

gbg

Enclosure

ST0354757

ASBESTOS GASKET REMOVAL PROCEDURES FOR CONTRACTOR CRAFTSMEN



Before any asbestos gaskets are removed; empty plastic drums labeled (ASBESTOS GASKETS ONLY) shall be placed in the area for craftsmen to place the used gaskets in. Each drum will have an approved asbestos labeled bag inside with a slot cut into the top so that craftsmen can easily dispose the bagged used gasket into the drum.

2. All craftsmen who will be removing asbestos gaskets shall have with them a spray bottle of surfactant (Fantastic) along with an approved plastic bag to place the removed used gasket into for disposal.
3. The gasket to be removed shall be wetted with surfactant before, during and after removal then placed into the bag. The bag will be sealed closed and then disposed into the marked drums.
NOTE: There are some gasket services that can not be removed by the wet method and in those cases trained asbestos persons must remove the gasket
4. Gaskets that stick to the metal and can not be removed, Craftsmen may use a metal scrapper (putty knife). Insert the blade under the gasket and attempt to free it.
5. If the gasket does not free easily or breaks, cracks, comes apart, or resist freeing from the metal, craftsmen must then contact their supervision who will inform Dow supervision. This is so trained asbestos removal personnel can be set up to remove the gasket following appropriate Dow/OSHA requirements.
6. All craftsmen shall be informed that Dow Industrial Hygiene has documentation showing that removal of asbestos gasket material following the above procedures are safe. Personnel exposures to asbestos do not exceed 0.1 fiber per center meter for a time weighted average of 8 hours or 1 fiber per center meter for short term 30 minute exposures.
7. Documented records are kept at Dow's Industrial Hygiene Department and can be looked at by contacting your supervisor. Your supervisor will make arrangements to view those records.

3/15/91/bp

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**ASBESTOS GASKET HANDLING PROCEDURES
FOR MAINTENANCE SHOPS**

In a continuing effort to eliminate any safety risks that we are faced with in the maintenance shops, a new procedure for handling asbestos gaskets has been developed and is as follows:

- Only gaskets that can be removed from equipment by hand or be easily lifted by breaking the seal with a scraper like tool will be removed by shop personnel.
- If the gasket is adhered to the equipment in such a manner that it requires a grinder to remove it, call Daniel Cortez at Ext. 6300. He is with Petrin Insulators and they use a special grinder that has a vacuum attachment to catch the asbestos dust that is created by the grinder. Shop personnel will not be allowed to remove asbestos gaskets with a grinder. For assistance after normal working hours and during the weekend, call the maintenance supervisor on call.
- The same procedures should be followed before sending any equipment to the sandblast yard.
- A special barrel with an approved liner for asbestos has been set up next to the gasket table for all scrap asbestos material to be placed in. This area must be kept clean.
- Sheet gasket storage area will be cleaned dust-free weekly by vacuum.
- Scrap gasket material will be placed in a covered container which has an approved asbestos labeled bag inside. The container can be disposed of by calling the Insulation Department, Ph. 6443.

ST0354749