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DO NOT SWEEP IN WORK AREA - USE VACUUM METHOD



DUST COLLECTION METHODS

When asbestos-containing friction materials are machined, i.e., drilled, ground, grooved, cut or beveled, the dust created contains asbestos fibers which may become airborne unless adequate dust controls are employed. The preferred method for minimizing airborne dust from machining operations is local exhaust ventilation. A local exhaust ventilation system consists of dust collection hoods or enclosures connected by duct work or piping to a dust collection filter and a suction source.

The two operations that offer the greatest potential for generation of excessive amounts of airborne asbestos fiber are arc grinding and beveling of lined brake shoes and linings or brake blocks. Grinding machines used for these operations must be provided with exhaust ventilation to maintain worker exposures within permissible levels.

If a central exhaust system is not available, NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) has stated that, at a minimum, the dust bag of the arcing machine shall be removed and replaced with the hose from a high efficiency industrial vacuum.

For large volume machining operations that operate on a continuous basis, the preferred dust collection device is a fabric filter or baghouse, with a heavy-duty exhaust fan as the suction source. The dust collector must meet the air-cleaning requirements of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency Emission Standard for Asbestos. Approval must be obtained from EPA for installation and operation of each system.

OTHER METHODS OF MINIMIZING DUST EXPOSURE

Whenever possible machining and repair operations should be isolated from other work areas in a restricted area to prevent unnecessary exposure of other workers. Entrances to restricted areas shall be posted with asbestos exposure warning signs as follows:

Asbestos
Dust Hazard
Avoid Breathing Dust
Wear Assigned Protective Equipment
Do Not Remain In Area Unless Your Work Requires It
Breathing Asbestos Dust
May Be Hazardous To Your Health