FILE NAME: National Gypsum (NG)

DATE: 0000

DOC#: NG032

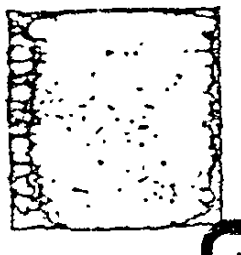
DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Industry Recommended Practices [Draft] - For Handling and Applying Asbestos-Cement Products

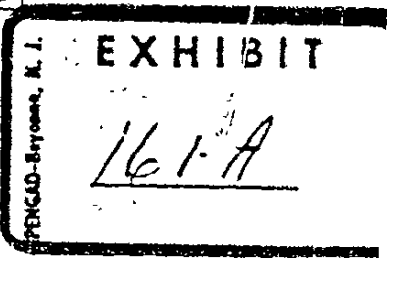
RECOMMENDED
PRACTICES

FOR HANDLING
AND APPLYING
ASBESTOS-CEMENT
PRODUCTS IN
THE BUILDING
AND CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRIES

Prepared by
ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

36-111





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Three major points to keep in mind in the handling and applying of materials containing asbestos:

.....Keep dust to a minimum.

.....Wear approved respirators when exposed to dusts.

.....Maintain good housekeeping at all times.

36-112

Introduction

The discovery and production of hundreds of natural and synthetic material including asbestos-cement products has developed special protection equipment and practices and should be employed by all [illegible] industry.

Manufacturers of asbestos-cement products have for years been taking protective measures to eliminate exposures to the inhalation of dust to its workers.

The handling and application of asbestos-cement products is very diverse and ranges from the installation of a single piece to extensive operations involving cutting and machining by mechanical equipment. While care should always be exercised, special precautions are necessary when dusts are generated as the result of sawing, drilling or other similar operations. Respirators should be worn.

The Asbestos Cement Products Association recommends the following practices for handling and applying asbestos-cement products in the building and construction industries. Contractors and applicators are urged to study these recommended practices carefully and to see that they are observed by all workers handling asbestos-cement materials. It is in best interest of both employer and employer to see that all safety regulations and practices are strictly observed and enforced.

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HOUSEKEEPING

An organized housekeeping program should be maintained in all areas and on all operations at all times.

A major source of dust is from loose materials, scrap and debris distributed throughout the job area and disintegrated by trampling on, running over, etc. Much of it can be eliminated by exercising simple good housekeeping practices.

Specific standards and practices designed for providing safe, clean and orderly working conditions should be defined.

Efficient supervisory control, planning of systematic cleaning plus day to day follow-up are the basic requirements for dust control and injury prevention.

SHIPPING, HANDLING AND STORAGE

Under normal conditions, unit load handling and storage of asbestos-cement products including roofing and siding shingles, flat and corrugated sheets, asbestos-cement pipe, etc. should present no problems if the safety practices and regulations are observed and enforced.

When handling individual pieces of flat and corrugated asbestos sheets, care should be taken when placing one sheet on top of the other to avoid creating dust and breakage.

If breakage of asbestos-cement products occurs, broken pieces of material should be cleaned up and disposed of to avoid disintegration by trampling on, running over, etc.

Handling and storage of bags containing asbestos fiber, cements, etc. present no problem, providing bags are unopened and not broken. Open or broken bags should be repacked, resealed or discarded to prevent dust distribution throughout working areas. Spillage should be cleaned up immediately.

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FABRICATION AND APPLICATION

When moving asbestos-cement products to and from the fabrication site, individual pieces of materials should be handled with care to avoid breakage and dust.

Fabrication of asbestos-cement products involving cutting, drilling, sawing, etc., should be done in a manner that will minimize dust. The use of proper methods, tools and equipment will contribute considerably toward dust abatement.

When cutting, drilling, sawing, etc. on a repeated basis with power equipment, mechanical dust collecting systems adequately designed to remove dust from the source should be used.

In confined spaces lacking exhaust equipment respirators should be worn.

Never exhaust equipment or areas into other work areas.

Provide waste containers at all fabrication and application areas. Dispose of unusable material immediately. Keep floors and surfaces clean. Dust and small particles created during fabrication and application should be cleaned up. Vacuum equipment is recommended for this cleaning. If vacuum equipment cannot be used, wet down waste material before sweeping and shoveling. Respirators should be worn during all clean-up operations.

RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT

Only approved respiratory equipment is recommended for use. The efficiency and effectiveness of this equipment is dependent upon proper care, cleaning and maintenance. A systematic procedure should be established to insure that this is done.

List of approved respiratory equipment can be obtained from:

U. S. of America Standards Institute
10 East 40th St.
New York, N.Y. 10016

American Industrial Hygiene Association
1125 Prevost
Detroit, Michigan 48227

U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Mines
Eighteenth and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C.