



Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) Exposure

Disturbance of Suspect Friable ACM

As a result of conditions where there is a potential for airborne asbestos fiber release, there is a risk of inhalation of fibers by building occupants in the immediate area. Fiber release episodes are categorized as "minor" or "major". Whether the disturbance is intentional, unintentional, minor, or major, the debris must be promptly cleaned up by **asbestos-trained personnel ONLY** to minimize further distribution of the debris into the environment.

Response to a Disturbance

If you believe that a minor or major fiber release episode has occurred in your work area, the following procedures should be taken to minimize the spread of asbestos fibers:

- **Direct all occupants** in adjacent areas to leave the affected area. Notify your immediate supervisor.
- **Secure the area** by locking all access points to the space. It would be prudent to post a sign indicating "Access to space has been temporarily restricted". If the debris is in a public space and the area cannot be secured, use alternate means to isolate the immediate area, such as rope, caution tape, wet-floor A-frame signs, etc. to prevent pedestrian traffic in the area. Provide a building contact on the warning sign, if possible.

Disturbance of Suspect Non-Friable ACM

If the debris is considered non-friable, such as floor tile in good condition, there is little chance of fibers being released; however, the coordination of prompt cleanup should still be conducted immediately by the appropriate personnel. Notify your immediate supervisor.

Documenting Disturbance of ACM

The following information must be included:

- Date of the event
- Location of the event (ie: building and room number)
- Type of ACM that was disturbed (friable, non-friable, floor tile, pipe insulation, etc.)
- Potential cause of the disturbance (water damage, accidental contact, deterioration, etc.)
- Actions taken to prevent spread of fibers (cover/seal air ducts, shut off HVAC in area, etc.)



- Names and contact information of persons concerned about possible exposure to asbestos fibers
- Names of workers or contractor personnel who will be performing cleanup activities
- Date the cleanup was completed
- Quantity of properly labeled bags used to collect the debris
- Means of disposal of accumulated waste and appropriate waste manifest, if applicable

SAFETY REMINDER

OSHA defines employee exposure as the exposure to airborne asbestos that would occur if the employee were not using respiratory protection.