

SCOPE & DEFINITIONS

This chapter contains criteria to control and abate threats to human health and the environment from asbestos, and describes management of asbestos during removal and disposal. Policy requirements for a comprehensive Occupational Health and Safety program are not covered in this chapter. To protect personnel from asbestos exposure, refer to DoDI 6055.1 (DoD Occupational Safety and Health Program) and DoDI 6055.5 (Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Health) and concomitant service instructions.

Adequately Wet – Sufficiently mix or penetrate with liquid to prevent the release of particulates. If visible emissions are observed coming from ACM, then that material has not been adequately wetted. However, the absence of visible emissions is not sufficient evidence of being adequately wet.

Asbestos – Generic term used to describe six distinctive varieties of fibrous mineral silicates, including chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite, tremolite asbestos, anthrophyllite asbestos, actinolite asbestos, and any other of these materials that have been chemically treated and/or altered.

Asbestos-Containing Material (ACM) – Any material containing more than 1 percent asbestos by weight.

Friable Asbestos – Any material containing more than 1 percent asbestos that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.

Local National – An employee hired under Spanish employment conditions.

CRITERIA

C15.1 ASBESTOS PROGRAM MANAGER

Installations will appoint an asbestos program manager to serve as the single point of contact for all asbestos-related activities.

C15.2 ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Installations will prepare and implement an asbestos management plan. As a minimum, the plan will include the following:

C15.2.1 An ACM inventory, conducted by sample and analysis or visual determination.

C15.2.2 A notification and education program to tell workers, tenants, and building occupants where potentially friable ACM is located and how and why to avoid disturbing the ACM; all persons affected should be properly informed.

C15.2.3 Regular ACM surveillance to note, assess, and document any changes in the ACM's condition.

C15.2.4 Work control/permit systems to control activities that might disturb ACM.

C15.2.5 Operations and maintenance (O&M) work practices to avoid or minimize fiber release during activities affecting ACM, including:

- Isolation of the work area
- Installation of warning signs
- Provision of protective clothing and respirators to workers
- Monitoring to determine the airborne asbestos concentration
- Frequent cleaning during the activity to minimize airborne asbestos fibers

These activities will be implemented whenever airborne asbestos concentrations are expected to exceed 0.1 f/cc (either in pure form or in combination with any other material).

C15.2.6 Record-keeping to document O&M activities related to asbestos identification, management, abatement.

C15.2.7 Training for the asbestos program manager as well as custodial and maintenance staff. At a minimum, the training program must address:

- The risks derived from working with asbestos, the requirements contained in this chapter, the asbestos concentration limits, and the norms for control and environmental assessment
- The hygienic/preventive measures to be adopted by the workforce
- The danger from smoking due to its synergistic effect when inhaled with asbestos fiber dust
- The utility, use, conservation, and mandate for personal protective measures, when necessary
- Any other information regarding necessary hygienic/preventive measures to minimize exposure risk

Installations will conduct initial and refresher training courses for all exposed workers.

C15.2.8 Procedures to assess and prioritize identified hazards for abatement.

C15.2.9 Procedures to prevent the use of ACM in new construction. The use of crocidolite (blue) asbestos, amosite, anthophyllite, tremolite, and fibers that contain any of these products is prohibited.

In addition, chrysotile or products that contain chrysotile fibers cannot be used (or sold) in the following products or uses:

- Sprayed or “projected” applications
- Paints and varnishes
- Mortars, protective coating, filling materials, sealing materials, joints, glue, filler, flour, and decorating materials
- Low density (less than 1 g/cm²) thermal and acoustic isolating materials
- Air filters and filters used in gas transport, distribution, and use
- Ground overlaying plastic filling materials or bases
- Roofing cardboard

C15.3 DETERMINATION PRIOR TO DEMOLITION OR RENOVATION

Prior to the demolition or renovation of a facility, the installation will make a determination whether or not the activity will remove or disturb ACM, and will record this determination on the project authorization document (e.g., work order).

C15.4 ASSESSMENT FOR REMOVAL / DISTURBANCE OF FRIABLE ACM

Prior to the demolition or renovation of a facility that involves removing or disturbing friable ACM, a written assessment of the action will be prepared and furnished to the installation commander. A copy of the assessment will also be kept on permanent file.

C15.5 REMOVAL OF FRIABLE ACM

Installations will remove friable ACM when it poses a threat to release airborne asbestos fibers and cannot be reliably repaired or isolated.

C15.6 REMOVAL OF ACM PRIOR TO DEMOLITION OR DISTURBANCE

Before disturbing or demolishing a facility or part of a facility, installations will remove all friable ACM, and ACM with a high degree of probability of becoming friable once disturbed during demolition.

Prior to commencing the asbestos removal activities, a detailed work plan must be prepared for the project. Worker representatives and the Security and Hygiene Committee must be consulted during the preparation of this work plan. The work plan must be submitted to the Spanish Base Commander for potential transmittal to the competent Labor Authority (Autoridad Laboral) for approval (see Chapter 1 for the procedure). The work plan must address:

- The type of work
- The length of time and number of workers involved in the activity or in charge of ACM handling

- The method for performing the work
- Preventive measures to limit the asbestos fibers generation and dispersion in the environment
- Procedures to assess and control the workplace environment
- The type and instructions for use for personal protective equipment, when necessary
- Measures to inform the workers of asbestos exposure risks and precautions to take to reduce those risks
- The measures for ACM disposal
- Removal of ACM prior to starting any demolition operation, when technically possible

C15.7 DISPOSAL OF ACM

When disposing of asbestos waste, installations will adequately wet all ACM waste, seal it in a leak-proof container, and deliver it to an authorized company for disposal. Containers of asbestos waste will be labeled in English and Spanish:

DANGER - CONTAINS ASBESTOS FIBERS
AVOID CREATING DUST - CANCER AND LUNG DISEASE HAZARD
Follow safety instructions

ATENCIÓN CONTIENE AMIANTO
Respirar el polvo de amianto es peligroso para la salud
Seguir las normas de seguridad

If the waste contains crocidolite, the words "contains asbestos" must be replaced with "contains crocidolite/blue asbestos – contiene crocidolite/amianto azul". The label must be at least 5 cm high and 2.5 cm wide and must have a large white "a" on a black background above the text (which is printed against a red background).

In accordance with the Chapter 6 (Hazardous Waste) labeling requirements, all asbestos waste containers will also have a second label (at least 10 x 10 cm) with the following information:

- The waste identification code
- The packaging date
- The nature of the risks associated with the waste
- The name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the waste

The recipient of the container must also be identified in a clear and legible manner, in Spanish.

ACM is a hazardous waste. In-country disposal of ACM must be conducted by an authorized waste disposal company, in accordance with the procedures in Chapter 6 (Hazardous Waste). Permanent records (waste transport and waste disposal manifests) documenting the disposal action and site will be maintained.

C15.8 DOD SCHOOLS

DoD schools will comply with applicable requirements 15 U.S.C. Chapter 53 Section 2643(l) and implementing regulations in 40 CFR Part 763, Subpart E.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. A work plan must be prepared for all ACM abatement/removal activities prior to the initiation of the work. The work plan must be submitted to the Spanish Base Commander, who may choose to submit it to the competent Labor Authority (Autoridad Laboral) for approval.