

# MAPP

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<b>ASBESTOS AWARENESS</b>	
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## 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 1.1. This safety guideline is intended to provide suitable information to all MAPP employees regarding the potential effects of asbestos and where asbestos may be found so that adequate measures can be taken to limit exposures through controls in the workplace. No MAPP employee shall be exposed to an airborne concentration of asbestos in excess of 1.0 fiber per cubic centimeter of air (1f/cc) in 30 minutes. **NOTE: If MAPP employees are to work in areas where the contracting company has identified asbestos, these areas will be disclosed to us and rendered safe before work will begin. The air quality (safety) is to be determined from breathing zone air samples. The samples shall be representative of the 8-hour TWA and 30 minute short-term exposure. Measurement are required for documentation.** MAPP does not knowingly allow employees to work in areas where they will have exposure to asbestos. Any employee who knowingly enters a restricted asbestos area will be disciplined.

## 2. GENERAL

- 2.1. Asbestos that may exist in includes certain gaskets, brake linings, valve packing and old insulation. Since non-asbestos insulation is being used in most refineries on new work installations, the highest probability for exposure will come during demolition or old insulation removal. However, Asbestos-containing material may be encountered in the following forms:
- 2.1.1. Valves, vessels, piping insulation, insulation cement, mastic, floor and roof tiling, transit wall siding, caulking, and automobile brake linings.
- 2.2. All asbestos removal must be done by certified workers who are licensed to remove asbestos. No MAPP employee (or uncertified subcontractors) are to work on any area that contains "asbestos containing materials" unless properly protected and/or the material is encapsulated and will not fragmentize or peel off when working on it.
- 2.3. Asbestos is a widely used, mineral-based material that is resistant to heat and corrosive chemicals. Depending of the chemical composition, fibers may range in texture from coarse to silky. The properties which make asbestos fibers so valuable to industry are its high tensile strength, flexibility, heat and chemical resistance, and good frictional properties.

## 3. WORK PRACTICES

**MAPP employees are not to work on areas, equipment, or materials containing asbestos.** If employees become aware of any potential exposure to asbestos, they are to immediately stop work and notify their supervisor/foreman. The supervisor/foreman is then responsible to inform the office for further information, but in no case allow work to proceed until the exposure to asbestos has been abated.

## 4. HEALTH EFFECTS:

- 4.1. Asbestos fibers are carried into the body as airborne particles. These fibers can

become embedded in the tissues of the lung and digestive system. Once the fibers become trapped in the lung's alveoli (air sacs), they cannot be removed.

- 4.2. Years of exposure to asbestos can cause a number of disabling and fatal diseases. Among these are asbestosis, an emphysema-like condition, lung cancer; mesothelioma, a cancerous tumor that spreads rapidly in the cells of membranes covering the lungs and body organs; and gastrointestinal cancer which is caused by ingesting asbestos-contaminated food.
- 4.3. Recognizing the danger of asbestos levels in the workplace, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration developed a more protective regulation that reduces the permissible exposure limit and prescribes a separate standard for general industry and for construction.
- 4.4. Short term affects (acute)
  - 4.4.1. May cause irritation and itching to the skin, coughing may occur.
- 4.5. Long term effects
  - 4.5.1. Over exposure can result in lung cancer. Common symptoms include difficulty in breathing (if you climb a flight of steps and are out of breath) cough chest pains, clubbing of the fingers, (this common in advanced stages), risk for lung cancer is or multiplied if the worker exposed to asbestos also smokes.

## **5. PROCEDURES:**

- 5.1. MAPP employees should be aware of the following safe practices.
  - 5.1.1. To help reduce worker exposure to airborne fibers, asbestos must be handled, mixed, applied, removed, cut, scored or otherwise worked in a wet state. This "wet" method must also be used when products containing asbestos are removed from bags, cartons, or containers. If this not possible, removal must be done in an enclosed or well-ventilated area.
  - 5.1.2. Asbestos containing materials must not be applied by spray methods. Compressed air can be used to remove asbestos containing materials only if the compressed air is used in conjunction with an enclosed ventilated system designed to capture the dust cloud created by the compressed air.

## **6. HOUSEKEEPING:**

- 6.1. All surfaces must be maintained as free as practicable of accumulations of asbestos containing dust and waste. Floors and other surfaces contaminated with asbestos should only be cleaned by vacuuming and/or wet cleaning methods. Where vacuuming and/or wet cleaning is not feasible, shoveling, dry sweeping and dry clean-up of asbestos may be used. The use of compressed air for cleaning purpose is prohibited. Asbestos waste, scrap, debris, bags, containers, and equipment must be disposed of in sealed impermeable bags or containers.

## **7. COMPLIANCE METHODS:**

- 7.1. OSHA requires that to that extent feasible, engineering and work practice controls must be used to reduce employee exposure to Asbestos to within the PEL. Monitoring shall

be performed by the owner to ensure concentrations are below the OSHA PEL.

- 7.1.1. Respirators shall be used in the following 4 circumstances: work practice controls, work operations, to reduce exposure, & in emergencies. Respirators may be used where engineering controls have been instituted but are insufficient to reduce exposure to the required level. The respirator shall be provided at no cost to the employees and shall be chosen from those approved by NIOSH.
- 7.1.2. PPE shall include, but not limited to, coveralls, gloves, head coverings, foot coverings, face shields & vented goggles.
- 7.2. OSHA also requires that employers involved in the remediation, or removal of asbestos containing material have a written asbestos safety program and it be made available upon request to the Assistant Secretary for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), employees and employee representatives. These plans must be reviewed and updated as necessary to reflect significant changes in the compliance program. Employee rotation cannot be used as a means to compliance with the permissible exposure limit.
- 7.3. Signs and labels shall identify the material which is present, its location, and appropriate work practices which, if followed, will ensure that asbestos containing material (ACM) and/or presumed asbestos containing material (PACM) will not be disturbed

## **8. TRAINING:**

- 8.1. All employees will be provided awareness training in this program in order to be familiar with the potential hazards and proper safe work procedures to follow if exposed to this health hazard.
  - 8.1.1. The training shall be provided prior to or at the time of initial assignment & at least annually thereafter. The training program shall be done in a manner that the employee is able to understand & should include health effects associated with exposure to asbestos.
  - 8.1.2. Asbestos awareness training is required for employees whose work activities may contact asbestos containing material (ACM) or presumed asbestos containing material (PACM) but do not disturb the ACM or PACM during their work activities.
  - 8.1.3. Written materials relating to the employee training program will be readily available to affected employees, the assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health and the director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.