



Army

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Hazardous Substances

Asbestos

**Force Preservation Awareness
Training Package**



Asbestos Training - Tier 1



Equipment Sign



Area Sign



Disposal Label

General Awareness

Asbestos - What do I need to know?

- What asbestos is.
- What threat asbestos poses to you.
- Where it is likely to be.
- Actions on finding asbestos.
- What to do if you are concerned.

What is asbestos?

- Asbestos is a mineral with many uses
- Asbestos has been banned since Jan 2004
 - Army has no exemptions
 - Army is removing all known asbestos items from the logistics system
 - In-situ asbestos is permitted and remains in equipment and facilities – it poses a very low risk
 - Direct unit purchases?

Health Affects

- Asbestosis. Scarring of the lungs that severely reduces lung capacity.
- Mesothelioma. Cancer of the pleural lining (lining of the lung).
- Lung Cancer. Malignant tumour in the lungs.
- Other Cancers. Potentially oesophagus and stomach.

Where is asbestos - general

- Asbestos was widely used:
 - Friction material - Brakes and clutches
 - Heat shielding - Wiring and hydraulics
 - High temperature gaskets - Engines, exhausts
 - Building materials - Fibro sheeting and roofing
 - Water / drain pipes
 - Aircraft panels and adhesives

Where is asbestos in the unit?

- Within this unit asbestos is known to be in:
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?

Actions on finding asbestos?

- Quarantine the immediate area to prevent further potential exposure – DO NOT TOUCH
- Advise your supervisor so qualified personnel can assess the situation and remove the hazard:
 - The responsible DMO SPO will provide advice for equipment and DSG will resolve facility issues
 - IAW the advice trained Army personnel and/or contractors will be used to remove the ACM (if required – it could be ‘in-situ’)
 - Never dispose of as general waste and don’t participate unless trained

Exposure Reporting

- If you have been potentially exposed, an AC563 must be raised. If concerned you may contact your local medical centre or Defence Asbestos Exposure Evaluation Service (1800 000 655).

Key Points

- Elimination from the supply system
- Asbestos must be appropriately labelled



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Key Points

- Asbestos register in every unit (ensure you check)
- Only competent personnel can prepare asbestos materials for disposal and/or remove it (EMEI 410 refers to methods)
- Ensure contractors and visitors are briefed as required on the hazard

References

- SAFETYMAN Vol 1 Pt 5 Chap 2 (Asbestos management)
- SAFETYMAN Vol 2 Pt 3 Chap 22 Annex D (Asbestos)
- EMEI Workshop E 410 (Safe work practices for working with asbestos)
- ArmySAFE website (various guidance and links)
- OHSB website (various guidance and links)
- CA Directive 24/2008, Management of Asbestos within The Australian Army, dated 05 Dec 08
- CA Directive 24/11 Asbestos Management Plan for Land Materiel

References

- National Model Regulations for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances [NOHSC: 1005 (1994)], dated Jan 94
- National Code of Practice for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances [NOHSC: 2007 (1994)], dated Jan 94
- Health Directive 296 - Health aspects to managing Asbestos containing material in the Australian Defence Force



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courage
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integrity