



Air Monitoring and Dust Suppression

20 March 2018

OVERVIEW

Air monitoring and dust suppression are key safety controls implemented during asbestos removal and demolition works.

DETAILS

- During internal asbestos removal air monitoring is conducted inside the house as well as around the outside of the sealed house.
- During structural demolition, air monitors are located around the perimeter of the site, on the excavator and inside the excavator cabin.
- The monitors detect the presence of all fibres in the air, not just asbestos fibres. They collect dust on filter paper which is sent to a laboratory for analysis.
- If fibres are detected above 0.01 fibres per millilitre (ie. above acceptable background environmental levels), the head contractor will order work to stop.
- WorkSafe ACT is notified if airborne fibre levels are greater than 0.02 fibres per millilitre.
- Air monitoring is carried out in accordance with the *Work Health and Safety (How to Safely Remove Asbestos Code of Practice) Approval 2014* - www.legislation.act.gov.au/ni/2014-670/default.asp
- Dust suppression measures appropriate to the individual site are used during structural demolition.
- This may include a fogging machine or high pressure hose directed over the demolition work area to wet surfaces. Fine water sprays are also applied to the excavator shovel.
- The fogging machine produces a spray that can look like dust, but it is actually a misty cloud of fine water droplets.
- If any visible dust is generated, work is stopped immediately and additional dust suppression controls are put in place.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Call Access Canberra on 13 22 81 and ask to speak with the Asbestos Response Taskforce, or email asbestostaskforce@act.gov.au.

ACCESSIBILITY

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