

Part 6: SUBSTANCE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

		Waste Handling and Disposal
Waste removal	6.27	<p>The employer must remove all asbestos dust and debris from the work area with a vacuum cleaner equipped with a HEPA filtered exhaust, or by other means acceptable to the Board, while the work is in progress, at the end of each work shift, and at the completion of work involving asbestos.</p> <p>(1) Before any work involving asbestos takes place, the employer must ensure that procedures for the safe removal of asbestos dust and debris from the work area are set out in writing by a qualified person.</p> <p>(2) The written procedures must</p> <p>(a) comply with the requirements set out in section 6.8,</p> <p>(b) provide for removal of asbestos dust and debris from the work area</p> <p>(i) while work is in progress, at intervals necessary to eliminate or minimize the risk of exposure,</p> <p>(ii) at the end of each work shift, and</p> <p>(iii) at the completion of work involving asbestos, and</p> <p>(c) consider the nature of the asbestos dust and debris to be removed and provide specific direction regarding which of the following removal methods, or combination of the following removal methods, is most appropriate for safe removal of that asbestos dust and debris in relation to each of the times set out in paragraph (b) (i), (ii) and (iii):</p> <p>(i) using a vacuum cleaner, or similar device, that is equipped with a HEPA-filtered exhaust;</p> <p>(ii) wiping surfaces with a damp cloth or sponge to remove residual amounts of asbestos dust and debris;</p> <p>(iii) wet sweeping or wet mopping to remove larger amounts of asbestos dust and debris;</p> <p>(iv) using a shovel or similar device to place larger amounts of dampened asbestos debris into the sealed container required by section 6.25;</p> <p>(v) using another method that is acceptable to the Board.</p> <p>(3) The employer must ensure that</p> <p>(a) every worker who is engaged in asbestos dust and debris removal at the work area is adequately instructed and trained in the written procedures of the qualified person under this section, and</p> <p>(b) the written procedures of the qualified person are followed.</p>

Explanatory Notes:

The purpose of the amendments is to introduce into the regulations some procedures that are currently in the Board guidelines to set out what methods are acceptable to the Board for removal of asbestos dust and debris. At the same time, flexibility in the regulations relating to these methods is maintained by retaining the phrase "using another method acceptable to the Board. These procedures must minimize

**AMENDMENTS FOR PART 6: SUBSTANCE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
IN THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATION**

the generation of airborne asbestos fibres in concert with the ALARA principle of section 5.57 as asbestos is a human carcinogen.

Before any work involving asbestos takes place, the employer must ensure that work procedures for the safe removal of asbestos dust and debris from the designated work area are set out in writing by a qualified person.

“Qualified” is defined in Part 1 as “being knowledgeable of the work, the hazards involved and the means to control the hazards, by reason of education, training, experience or a combination thereof.” Further to this there are proposed amendments in 2011 in which section 6.1 will include a definition for “qualified person” who “(a) has knowledge of the management and control of asbestos hazards through education and training, and (b) has experience in the management and control of asbestos hazards.” This definition in 6.1 will apply to 6.2 through 6.32, which includes 6.27.

The written work procedures must comply with the requirements set out in section 6.8. When one is removing asbestos dust and debris, one is “handling asbestos”. Section 6.8(2)(e) is about removal of asbestos waste and cleanup of asbestos waste material. The wording of 6.27(2)(a) acknowledges that there may be overlap with 6.8. It reinforces that there also must be compliance with the requirements set out in 6.8 to the extent that it covers requirements dealing with removal of asbestos waste and cleanup of asbestos waste material.

The written procedures must provide for the removal of asbestos dust and debris from the designated work area (i) while the work is in progress, at intervals necessary to eliminate or minimize the risk of exposure, (ii) at the end of each work shift, and (iii) at the completion of work involving asbestos.

Additionally, the written procedures must take into account the nature of the asbestos dust and debris removal activity and provide specific directions to workers about which of the following removal methods, or combination thereof, is most appropriate for the safe removal of that asbestos dust and debris in relation to the each of the times when asbestos dust and debris removal is required. The list of methods was obtained from the OSH Guidelines, and modified for inclusion in the OHSR. A provision to allow for another method acceptable to the Board is also included to allow for flexibility in the methods used.

- (i) using a vacuum cleaner or device equipped with a HEPA-filtered exhaust;
- (ii) wiping surfaces with a damp cloth or sponge to remove residual amounts asbestos dust and debris;
- (iii) wet sweeping or wet mopping to remove larger amounts of asbestos dust and debris;
- (iv) using a shovel or similar device to place larger amounts of dampened asbestos dust and debris into the sealed container required by section 6.25;
- (v) any other method acceptable to the Board.

To ensure that workers are protected from asbestos exposure, the employer is obligated to ensure that every worker engaged in asbestos dust and debris removal at the designated work area is adequately instructed and trained in the written procedures of the qualified person, and that the written procedures of the qualified person are followed.

**AMENDMENTS FOR PART 6: SUBSTANCE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
IN THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATION**

TOXIC PROCESS GASES

- Monitors and alarms** **6.128** (1) Where practicable, the employer must install continuous monitoring systems that detect fugitive emissions and accidental releases and effectively determine work conditions within the restricted access area.
- (2) Continuous monitors must be connected to alarm systems to adequately warn workers of hazardous conditions and, when practicable, must be designed to safely activate appropriate control measures when emergency situations are detected.
- (3) Monitoring and alarm systems must be
- (a) tested at least monthly for proper operation, and
 - (b) calibrated at least annually
- by authorized personnel using procedures **set out in section 4.3 (2) or other procedures** acceptable to the Board.
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Explanatory Notes:

The purpose of the amendment is to introduce the prescriptive language “using procedures set out in section 4.3 (2)”. Section 4.3(2) addresses the requirements to install, inspect, test, repair and maintain machinery and equipment in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions and any applicable standard, or as specified by a professional engineer. In addition to the prescriptive language in section 4.3(2), the phrase “or other procedures acceptable to the Board” is retained to maintain flexibility in the regulations.

It is understood that calibration is part of installation, inspection, testing, repair and maintenance. If calibration instructions are not covered in the manufacturers’ instructions, or if these instructions are not available, then a Professional Engineer must specify calibration requirements, or the employer may approach the Board to approve another method.