

PART 6: SUBSTANCE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

ASBESTOS

Definitions	6.1	<p>In sections 6.2 to 6.32:</p> <p>In this section and sections 6.2 to 6.32:</p> <p>means any manufactured article or other material which contains 1% or more asbestos by weight at the time of manufacture, or which contains 1% or more asbestos as determined in the <i>National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Manual of Analytical Methods, Method 9002, Issue 2</i> (microscopy, stereo and polarized light, with dispersion staining), or other method acceptable to the Board;</p> <p>means the following:</p> <p>(a) a manufactured article or other material, other than vermiculite insulation, that would be determined to contain at least 0.5% asbestos if tested in accordance with one of the following methods:</p> <p>(i) Asbestos, Chrysotile by XRD, Method 9000 (Issue 2, dated August 15, 1994) in the NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods, published by the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control;</p> <p>(ii) Asbestos (bulk) by PLM, Method 9002 (Issue 2, dated August 15, 1994) in the NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods, published by the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control;</p> <p>(iii) Test Method for the Determination of Asbestos in Bulk Building Materials (EPA/600/R-93/116, dated July 1993) published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;</p> <p>(b) vermiculite insulation that would be determined to contain any asbestos if tested in accordance with the Research Method for Sampling and Analysis of Fibrous Amphibole in Vermiculite Attic Insulation (EPA/600/R-04/004, dated January 2004) published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;</p>
"asbestos-containing material"		
"friable material"		<p>means any material which, when dry, can be easily crumbled or powdered by hand pressure, or a material that is crumbled, or powdered;</p>
"friable asbestos-containing material"		<p>means asbestos-containing material that is crumbled or powdered or can be crumbled or powdered by hand pressure;</p>
"high risk work activity"		<p>means work activity involving the handling of asbestos-containing material or working in proximity to friable asbestos-containing material, where there is a high level of control necessary to prevent exposure to excessive concentrations of airborne asbestos fibre;</p> <p>means a work activity that involves working with or in proximity to asbestos-containing material if a high level of control is necessary in respect of that activity to prevent exposure of a worker to airborne asbestos fibre;</p>
"low risk work activity"		<p>means work activity in proximity to friable asbestos-containing material, where the material is not disturbed and there is no significant release of asbestos fibre;</p> <p>means a work activity that involves working with or in proximity to asbestos-containing material if, at the time the work activity is being carried out, both of the following apply:</p> <p>(a) the asbestos-containing material is not being</p>

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

- (i) cut, sanded, drilled, broken, ground down or otherwise fragmented, or
- (ii) disturbed such that the asbestos-containing material may release airborne asbestos fibre;

- (b) it is not necessary to use personal protective equipment or engineering controls in respect of that activity to prevent exposure of a worker to airborne asbestos fibre;

"moderate risk work activity"

means work activity involving the handling of asbestos-containing material or working in proximity to friable asbestos-containing material, not otherwise classified as low or high risk work activities.

means a work activity, other than a high risk work activity, that involves working with or in proximity to asbestos-containing material if, at the time the work activity is being carried out, one or both of the following apply:

- (a) the asbestos-containing material is being

- (i) cut, sanded, drilled, broken, ground down or otherwise fragmented, or
- (ii) disturbed such that the asbestos-containing material may release airborne asbestos fibre;

- (b) it is necessary to use personal protective equipment or engineering controls, or both, in respect of that activity to prevent exposure of a worker to airborne asbestos fibre;

"qualified person"

means a 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.

Explanatory Notes:

Asbestos-related occupational disease claims continue to lead the number of fatal claims each year in BC. It is well known that asbestos exposure-related illnesses have a long latency period so prevention efforts now will likely reduce illnesses and claims in the future. WorkSafeBC would like to continue its efforts in preventing asbestos-related fatal illnesses to workers by eliminating or reducing asbestos exposures with the proposed amendments.

Materials containing less than 1% asbestos can potentially expose workers to airborne concentrations of asbestos fibres when certain work activities are conducted, but currently these materials are not considered to be asbestos-containing material (or ACM) by the definition. Therefore, important regulatory requirements such as identifying the ACM in the workplace and including them into the inventory are not required for materials containing less than 1% asbestos. Materials such as vermiculite contaminated with asbestos, stucco, plaster, and gypsum board fill-in compound have been found to contain less than 1% asbestos. Due to the health risks associated with materials with less than 1% asbestos, a number of jurisdictions have amended or are considering amending their definitions of asbestos-containing material to include materials with less than 1% asbestos.

The changes to the definition of ACM remove the criterion that a material is asbestos-containing only if it has 1% or more asbestos content by weight at the time of manufacture or 1% or more as determined by a lab analysis. Instead, under the amendments, ACM is defined as material, other than vermiculite insulation, that is determined to contain at least 0.5% asbestos and vermiculite insulation that is determined to contain any asbestos when tested in accordance with one of the methods listed in the proposed definition.

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

In the proposed amendments that were released for consultation, ACM was defined as material that contained “any asbestos.” However, during consultation, concerns were raised that replacing the criterion of “1% or more” with “any asbestos” in the definition could create unintended practicability issues by including materials that might contain background levels of asbestos. “Background” refers to very small amounts of asbestos that might be present in water, soil, dust or on surfaces as a result of natural processes (e.g., the weathering of certain rock types) that are unlikely to release asbestos fibres in quantities that would harm a worker or other person. These asbestos fibres have been measured in ambient air and water by both the World Health Organization and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

In order to address concerns about practicability, WorkSafeBC considered defining ACM as material that contains at least 0.1% asbestos, but this definition could also unintentionally include materials that may contain background levels of asbestos and therefore have the same implementation issues as “any asbestos”. Although other jurisdictions, such as Quebec and Manitoba, have adopted 0.1% as the criterion for asbestos-containing material, it is unclear how they are enforcing to this level in light of the practicability issues involved.

WorkSafeBC also took into account Ontario’s experience when they considered moving to a criterion of 0.1% asbestos. In addition to practicability issues, Ontario found that there could have been legal implications involved with adopting the 0.1% criterion. Materials with at least 0.1% asbestos, which had been used as “non-asbestos” replacements for abated asbestos-containing insulation (e.g., sprayed fireproofing), would suddenly have to be treated as asbestos-containing material. WorkSafeBC could face similar legal implications if a 0.1% criterion was adopted.

In order to address issues of practicability while further protecting workers, WorkSafeBC amended the definition of ACM to mean material that contains at least 0.5% asbestos. This criterion is already being used in Ontario without any reported major implementation issues. Information received from consultants in Ontario indicates that the use of the 0.5% criterion has not resulted in a significant cost to employers who maintain proper asbestos inventories. Furthermore, consultants stated that, in their experience, most materials (with the exception of vermiculite insulation) that have been found to contain asbestos have contained more than 0.5% asbestos; this level is, therefore, protecting workers from asbestos exposure.

The issue of vermiculite insulation contaminated with asbestos will be addressed with a specific definition; vermiculite insulation that contains any asbestos will be considered ACM under the new definition. It is well documented that some historical sources of vermiculite are contaminated with very low (less than 1%) asbestos content. Vermiculite is a naturally occurring mineral that was commonly used as a safer alternative to replace asbestos when the hazardous effects of asbestos were discovered. Not all vermiculite is contaminated with asbestos, but products using vermiculite from the Libby mine in Montana until the early 1990’s have been identified to contain asbestos. Vermiculite insulation contaminated with asbestos (such as Zonolite® Attic Insulation and other brands) had been installed in thousands of Canadian homes in the late 1970’s – early 80’s. Although it is not likely a health problem when left undisturbed, vermiculite is a very friable material that can be easily crumbled when disturbed and asbestos fibres can become airborne. More information about vermiculite can be found in the following websites:

- Health Canada: [Vermiculite Insulation Containing Amphibole Asbestos](#)
- US Environmental Protection Agency: [Vermiculite](#)

The potential for high concentrations of airborne asbestos fibres and potential health effects have been studied by various researchers reviewing the asbestos exposures from the Libby, Montana vermiculite mine site.^{1,2,3} Also, WorkSafeBC has observed air sampling results taken during vermiculite insulation removal work that indicated the potential for high concentrations of airborne asbestos fibres.

¹ Anderson et al, Exposure pathway evaluations for sites that processed asbestos-contaminated vermiculite. Int. J. Hyg. Environ. Health 208, p.55-65 (2005).

² Addison, J. Vermiculite: A review of the mineralogy and health effects of vermiculite exploitation. Reg. Tox and Pharm. 21, 397-405 (1995).

³ Amandus, H.E. et al. The morbidity and mortality of vermiculite miners and millers exposed to tremolite – actinolite: Part I. Exposure Estimates. American Journal of Industrial Medicine 11:1-14 (1987).

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

The new definition is intended to include building materials such as plaster and gypsum board fill-in compound containing at least 0.5% asbestos, as well as vermiculite containing any asbestos into the definition of asbestos-containing material. The definition is not intended to include materials with negligible asbestos fibres or other situations where the asbestos insulation was properly removed from a pipe and the remaining asbestos fibres were sealed.

The majority of asbestos-containing materials will not be affected by the definition change because they contain more than 1% asbestos. It is only the materials that contain 0.5% or more asbestos, or vermiculite insulation that contains any asbestos, that will be affected by the new definition. It is not anticipated that entire buildings will have to be re-surveyed since the previous laboratory results would indicate which samples contained less than 1% asbestos or trace amounts of asbestos. Some stakeholders may have to review their Asbestos Management Program to update materials that contain less than 1% asbestos that might have been excluded when the original asbestos survey was completed.

The current definition of asbestos-containing material has been creating confusion among stakeholders because it conflicts with section 20.112 dealing with demolition work involving hazardous materials like asbestos. Section 20.112 (a) states that before work begins on the demolition, the employer or owner must inspect the site to identify any asbestos. Stakeholders have interpreted the asbestos mentioned in Part 20 to mean asbestos-containing material of 1% or greater as defined in section 6.1. When demolition or construction work is conducted and materials containing less than 1% asbestos have not been identified, the workers will unknowingly be exposed to asbestos fibres. Asbestos is a designated substance according to section 5.57 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation ("OHSR") and workers' exposures must be kept as low as reasonably achievable below the exposure limit. In order to eliminate confusion, Part 20 of the OHSR is being amended to make it clear that the term "asbestos containing material" in that Part has the same meaning as in proposed section 6.1.

There are other acceptable laboratory methods for identifying asbestos in a material, other than the *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Manual of Analytical Methods, Method 9002, Issue 2* (EPA 600/R-93/116, July 1993). Other acceptable methods, such as ones published by NIOSH and the US Environmental Protection Agency, have been added to the proposed amendment to remove the statement "or other methods acceptable to the Board" from the current definition of asbestos-containing material in section 6.1

The definition for "friable material" is being changed to "friable asbestos-containing material" to include friable asbestos-containing material that is generated when non-friable material, such as transite asbestos boards and asbestos cement pipes, are cut, sawed, drilled, or broken into smaller pieces. The new wording will clarify the definition of friable material to include friable material generated from non-friable material when it is fragmented. Also, a material does not necessarily have to be dry to be friable so this was removed from the definition. The requirement for Notice of Project (NOP) in section 20.2 (c)(i) will apply when non-friable material is removed in a way that generates friable asbestos dust that may release airborne asbestos fibre.

The current definitions for low, moderate and high risk work activity are creating confusion among stakeholders. The revised definitions are meant to clarify the various types of work activities into the three risk categories involving asbestos-containing material.

Examples of low risk work activities are:

- Working in proximity to friable asbestos-containing material that does not require contacting the asbestos-containing material
- Installing or removing a non-friable asbestos-containing material without cutting, sanding, drilling, or breaking where the potential for airborne asbestos fibres being generated is negligible.

Examples of moderate risk work activities are:

- Using hand tools to cut, drill, or grind non-friable asbestos-containing material
- Collecting asbestos samples for laboratory analysis
- Removing drywall materials where joint-filling materials containing asbestos have been used
- Backing mounting screws out of asbestos cement products and removing boards or tiles intact

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

- Buffing asbestos-containing floor tiles with a coarse disk
- Removing part of a false ceiling to gain access to a work area when friable asbestos-containing materials are likely to be lying on the surface of the ceiling tiles
- Removing vinyl-asbestos floor coverings
- Removing an entire piece of equipment or pipe with the asbestos containing material intact (“wrap and cut” procedure)
- Dismantling a treated containment at the completion of an asbestos removal project
- Setting up and removing a glove-bag apparatus for the removal of pipe insulation
- Using a HEPA-filter vacuum to clean an area before setting up a containment.

Examples of high risk work activities are:

- Removing friable asbestos-containing materials
- Removing non-friable asbestos-containing material where materials will be damaged resulting in friable asbestos waste where high levels of control are necessary to protect workers from airborne asbestos fibres
- Cleaning, maintaining or removing air-handling equipment in buildings where sprayed asbestos fireproofing has been applied to the airways or ventilation ducting
- Repairing, altering, or dismantling any part of a boiler, furnace, kiln or similar device to which asbestos insulation has been applied.

As stated in section 6.16 of the OHSR, a high risk work activity involves the use of containment and a decontamination facility as a high level of control, except where the containment is a glove bag. The guidelines and the *Safe Work Practices for Handling Asbestos* publication will be updated to provide other examples of high level of controls that may be necessary for a high risk work activity.

A new definition for “qualified person”, as it relates to sections 6.4 and 6.6 of the OHSR. has been added. The rationale for this amendment is outlined in the explanatory notes for these sections in the following pages.

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

Application	6.2	<p>Sections 6.3 to 6.32 apply to a workplace where a worker is or may be exposed to potentially hazardous levels of asbestos fibre, including</p> <p>(a) a workplace where asbestos-containing materials is present or is used, or (b) operations involving the abatement of asbestos-containing material, and (c) an operation in which exposure to asbestos fibre, in excess of 50% of the exposure limits, may occur.</p> <p>Sections 6.3 to 6.32 apply to a workplace where a worker is or may be exposed to potentially harmful levels of asbestos fibre, including a workplace where asbestos-containing material is present.</p>
--------------------	------------	--

Explanatory Notes:

The purpose of the amendments to section 6.2 is to eliminate confusion among stakeholders and WorkSafeBC Officers as it relates to asbestos as a designated substance.

The current wording of section 6.2(c) appears to conflict with the pertinent requirements of section 5.57 for designated substances. Section 6.2(c) currently states that the asbestos requirements will apply for an operation in which exposure to asbestos fibre in excess of 50% of the exposure limit may occur. This statement could be interpreted to mean that sections 6.3 to 6.32 do not apply to operations in which exposure to asbestos fibre is less than 50% of the exposure limit.

According to section 5.57, when substitution is not practicable, the employer must implement an exposure control plan to maintain workers' exposure as low as reasonably achievable below the exposure limit. Sections 6.2 to 6.32 outline many provisions to protect workers regardless of the airborne asbestos fibre concentrations.

Section 5.57 reads:

Designated substances	5.57	<p>(1) If a substance identified as any of the following is present in the workplace, the employer must replace it, if practicable, with a material which reduces the risk to workers:</p> <p>(a) ACGIH A1 or A2, or IARC 1, 2A or 2B carcinogen; (b) ACGIH reproductive toxin; (c) ACGIH sensitizer; (d) ACGIH L endnote.</p> <p>(2) If it is not practicable to substitute a material which reduces the risk to workers, in accordance with subsection (1), the employer must implement an exposure control plan to maintain workers' exposure as low as reasonably achievable below the exposure limit established under section 5.48.</p> <p>(3) The exposure control plan must meet the requirements of section 5.54.</p>
------------------------------	-------------	--

The wording of section 6.2 has been streamlined to make it clear that sections 6.3 to 6.32 apply to a workplace where a worker is or may be exposed to potentially harmful levels of asbestos fibres. This includes workplaces where the asbestos-containing material exists in good condition and is being managed in place.

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

- Inventory 6.4** ~~The employer must ensure that an inventory of all asbestos-containing materials present in the workplace is prepared and kept current.~~
- (1) The employer must ensure that a qualified person**
 - (a) collects representative samples of the materials in the workplace that the qualified person suspects contain asbestos, and**
 - (b) determines whether each of the samples is asbestos-containing material in accordance with,**
 - (i) in the case of a sample that is not vermiculite insulation, one of the methods set out in paragraph (a) (i) to (iii) of the definition of “asbestos-containing material” in section 6.1, and**
 - (ii) in the case of a sample that is vermiculite insulation, the method set out in paragraph (b) of the definition of “asbestos-containing material” in section 6.1.**
 - (2) If a qualified person suspects that an inaccessible material contains asbestos, the material must be treated as asbestos-containing material unless a qualified person determines, in accordance with subsection (1) (b), that it is not asbestos-containing material.**
 - (3) The employer must**
 - (a) ensure that a qualified person prepares an inventory of all asbestos-containing materials in the workplace,**
 - (b) keep the inventory at the workplace, and**
 - (c) keep the inventory current.**

Explanatory Notes:

The intent of section 6.4 is to ensure that all asbestos-containing materials have been identified in a workplace so that an up-to-date inventory is prepared. This is a critical component of the asbestos management program so that workers can be made aware of the hazards and safe work procedures can be developed to prevent inadvertent asbestos exposures.

The purpose of the amendments is to ensure that the collection of samples of materials suspected of containing asbestos, analysis of the samples, and the preparation of the inventory are carried out by a qualified person who is knowledgeable about asbestos-containing material. The qualified person will have sufficient knowledge of, but not limited to, where to sample for ACM, how to sample, hazards involved, and means to control the hazards by reason of education, training and experience.

Over the years, WorkSafeBC has been made aware of asbestos inventories carried out by unqualified persons that were poorly conducted and incomplete. This has led to dangerous situations where workers were inadvertently exposed to high concentrations of asbestos fibres. In order to eliminate events like these, WorkSafeBC is proposing to require qualified persons to collect samples and prepare inventories.

Currently, section 6.4 does not require that the inventory be conducted by a qualified person. Section 6.6, on the other hand, requires that a qualified person perform a risk assessment on the material identified in the inventory and before any work affecting the asbestos is conducted.

The new wording of section 6.4 (2) ensures that any inaccessible material suspected of containing asbestos is treated as asbestos unless the material is proven otherwise. The current wording of 6.4 does not address ACM that is not accessible for testing. The intent of the amendment is to prevent inadvertent asbestos exposure to workers when hidden asbestos has not been included in the inventory. It is a common industry practice to treat suspect material as asbestos-containing material until proven otherwise by a qualified person.

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

It should be noted that different qualified persons can perform each of the tasks mentioned in sections 6.4 (1) (a) and (b) and (2). For example, the qualified person collecting the samples may be a different qualified person than the person analyzing the samples.

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

Assessment and classification	6.6	(1)	The employer must ensure that a risk assessment is conducted by a qualified person on asbestos-containing material identified in the inventory referred to in section 6.4 (3) , with due regard for the condition of the material, its friability, accessibility and likelihood of damage, and the potential for fibre release and exposure of workers.
		(2)	The employer must ensure that a risk assessment has been conducted by a qualified person before any demolition, alteration, or repair of machinery, equipment, or structures where asbestos asbestos-containing material may be disturbed.
		(3)	Before work involving asbestos takes place a work activity that involves working with or in proximity to asbestos-containing material begins , the employer must ensure that a qualified person assesses the work activity and classifies it as a low, moderate, or high risk activity a low risk work activity, a moderate risk work activity or a high risk work activity .
		(4)	The qualified person referenced in subsections (1) and (3) must be an occupational health and safety professional with experience in the practice of occupational hygiene as it relates to asbestos management.
Control of friable asbestos fibre	6.7	(1)	The employer must ensure that a friable asbestos-containing material in the workplace is controlled all friable asbestos-containing materials in the workplace are controlled by removal, enclosure or encapsulation so as to prevent the release of airborne asbestos fibre.
		(2)	The employer must not allow any work that would disturb friable asbestos-containing material unless necessary precautions have been taken to protect workers.

Explanatory Notes:

The purpose of the amendments to section 6.6 (1) is to clarify that the inventory is the one carried out in accordance with section 6.4.

Section 6.6 (2) has been amended to clarify that the qualified person must perform the risk assessment, as intended. A qualified person is mentioned in subsections (1) and (3) of the current wording, but not in subsection (2). With the addition of the new definition of qualified person, subsection (4) is deleted so that the qualified person mentioned will have the consistent definition.

Also, the terms for low, moderate and high risk work activities have been changed to correlate with the terms defined in section 6.1 and asbestos is revised to asbestos-containing material for consistency.

The intent of the amendments to section 6.7 is to ensure that employers prevent the release of airborne asbestos fibres that can potentially expose workers.

Currently, section 6.7 states that an employer must ensure that a friable asbestos-containing material in the workplace is controlled to prevent the release of airborne asbestos fibre and must not allow any work that would disturb friable asbestos-containing material to take place unless precautions have been taken to protect workers. The current wording implies that non-friable asbestos-containing materials do not have to be controlled. The new wording of section 6.7 (2) will ensure that precautions are taken for both friable and non-friable asbestos-containing material to protect workers.

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

Prohibitions	6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Except for waste intended for disposal, the employer must ensure crocidolite asbestos or material containing crocidolite asbestos is not brought into or used in a workplace. (2) The spraying of asbestos or asbestos-containing material is not permitted. (3) Pressure spraying equipment of any type must not be used to remove asbestos insulation or other asbestos-containing material from buildings or structures. (4) The employer must not permit the use of compressed air to clean up or remove asbestos-containing asbestos dust or debris, or dry sweeping or dry mopping of asbestos-containing asbestos waste.
Substitution	6.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The employer must substitute material less hazardous than asbestos asbestos-containing material when practicable. (2) If such substitution is not practicable, the employer must document the reasons why less hazardous material cannot be substituted for asbestos-containing material, and make this documentation available to workers and to the joint committee or the worker health and safety representative, as applicable.
Monitoring	6.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (3) The employer must make the results of all air samples taken during a high risk activity high risk work activity available to the workers involved, within 24 hours of completing the collection of the samples.
High risk work	6.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (4) If the high risk activity high risk work activity involves encapsulation of asbestos-containing material, the employer must ensure that the encapsulant penetrates the material and effectively binds the asbestos fibres together, and has not disturbed the bonding of the material to the supporting surface. (5) At the completion of a high risk activity high risk work activity and before dismantling the containment, the employer must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) visually inspect the area inside the containment to ensure that an effective cleanup has been completed, and (b) treat all exposed surfaces inside the containment with a sealant to bind any remaining asbestos fibres and prevent them from becoming airborne.
Local exhaust ventilation	6.18	The employer must provide local exhaust ventilation with exhaust air discharged through a HEPA filter for all dust-producing operations outside a containment where asbestos or asbestos-containing dust asbestos-containing material is handled or used.
Protecting work surfaces	6.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Before starting work where exposed, friable exposed friable asbestos-containing material is present or asbestos-containing material has been handled, the employer must remove all asbestos dust from contaminated work surfaces with a damp cloth or similar material, or with a vacuum cleaner equipped with a HEPA-filtered exhaust.
Friction materials	6.24	If automotive service procedures may involve asbestos-containing friction material friction material that is asbestos-containing material or dust arising from such material, the employer must ensure that the following control measures are implemented:
Types of records	6.32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (2) The employer must maintain for at least 3 years, records of corrective actions to control asbestos fibre release, training and instruction of workers, written work procedures and written notification of the Board.

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

Explanatory Notes:

The amendments to sections 6.9, 6.10, 6.12, 6.16, 6.18, 6.20, 6.24, and 6.32 are consequential amendments for clarity, consistency and correcting grammatical errors.

All references to high risk activity have been changed to the defined term “high risk work activity”. Also, it is proposed that some terms using “asbestos-containing” be changed to the defined term “asbestos-containing material” or changed to asbestos dust and asbestos waste for consistency.

The regulatory requirements have not been affected by the amendments.

PART 20: CONSTRUCTION, EXCAVATION AND DEMOLITION

Definitions	20.1	In this Part:
<i>"adjacent to an excavation"</i>		means within a distance less than or equal to the overall depth of the excavation, measured from a vertical line through the toe of the excavation face;
"asbestos-containing material"		has the same meaning as in section 6.1;
<i>"construction project"</i>		means any erection, alteration, repair, dismantling, demolition, structural or routine maintenance, painting, land clearing, earth moving, grading, excavating, trenching, digging, boring, drilling, blasting, concreting, the installation of any machinery or any other work deemed to be construction by the Board;
<i>"demolition"</i>		means tearing down, destruction, breakup, razing or removal of the whole or part of a building or structure, or of free standing machinery or equipment that is directly related to the function of the structure;
<i>"excavation"</i>		means any cut, cavity, trench or depression in the earth's surface resulting from rock or soil removal;
<i>"fill"</i>		means any soil or other loose material that is constructed to form an embankment or a part of the foundation of a structure or improvement;
<i>"formwork"</i>		includes the foundation, supporting structure, and mould into which concrete will be placed;
<i>"formwork designer"</i>		means the professional engineer responsible for the design of formwork;
<i>"stockpile"</i>		means any soil or other loose material that is placed in an area for storage but that is not intended to function as fill;
<i>"tilt-up construction"</i>		means a system of building construction in which concrete wall panels are placed in position in the permanent structure and temporarily braced or supported;
<i>"trench"</i>		means an excavation less than 3.7 m (12 ft) wide at the bottom, over 1.2 m (4 ft) deep, and of any length.

Explanatory Notes:

The amendment to 20.1 includes a definition for "asbestos-containing material" to be clear that the term used throughout Part 20 is the same as the definition in Part 6.

AMENDMENTS FOR PART 20: CONSTRUCTION, EXCAVATION AND DEMOLITION
IN THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATION

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--|
| Notice of project | 20.2 | <p>(1) The owner or, if the owner engages another person to be the prime contractor, then that person must ensure that the Board receives, in writing or by fax, a notice of project (NOP) at least 24 hours before starting a construction project if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the total cost of labour and materials for the work exceeds \$100 000, or(b) all or part of the permanent or temporary works, except pre-engineered or pre-manufactured building and structural components, are required to be designed by a professional engineer, or(c) the construction activity involves<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) the removal, encapsulation or enclosure of friable asbestos building materials friable asbestos-containing material, as that term is defined in section 6.1, or(ii) the demolition, dismantling or repair of any building or structure, or parts thereof, in which insulating materials containing asbestos have asbestos-containing material has been used, or in which asbestos products have been manufactured, or(iii) an abatement project or other activity involving significant disturbance of lead-containing coatings on buildings or structures, or(iv) similar activities which may expose workers to a significant risk of occupational disease, or |
| Hazardous materials | 20.112 | <p>Before work begins on the demolition or salvage of machinery, equipment, buildings or structures, the employer or owner must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) inspect the site to identify any asbestos, lead or other heavy metal or toxic, flammable or explosive materials that may be handled, disturbed or removed,
ensure that a qualified person inspects the site to identify any asbestos-containing materials, lead or other heavy metal or toxic, flammable or explosive materials that may be handled, disturbed or removed,(b) have the inspection results available at the worksite, including any drawings, plans or specifications, as appropriate, to show the locations of any hazardous substances,(c) ensure that any hazardous materials found are safely contained or removed, and(d) if hazardous materials are discovered during demolition work that were not identified in the inspection required by paragraph (a), ensure that all work ceases until such materials are contained or removed. |

Explanatory Notes:

The consequential amendments to sections 20.2 and 20.112 will ensure that the terms used in Part 6 are consistent with terms used in Part 20. Consistent use of terms brings clarity and minimizes confusion to stakeholders and WorkSafeBC Officers.

Reference to “insulating” in subsection 20.2 (1)(c)(ii) was removed in the new wording because there are many types of asbestos-containing materials potentially being demolished, dismantled and repaired. The requirement for NOP will apply to demolition, dismantling, or repair of any building or structure, or parts thereof, in which asbestos-containing material has been used, or in which asbestos products have been manufactured.

The amendment to section 20.112 includes a requirement for a qualified person to inspect the site to identify any asbestos-containing material. It is intended that this qualified person is the same qualified person mentioned in section 6.1 as it relates to asbestos. This is a critical step in ensuring the protection of workers during construction or demolition of buildings where hazardous materials are suspected and they have not been identified.