UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
MAINTENANCE PROCEDURE

SEADRIFT PLANT - 510

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

NO: MP-I-46
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Gaskets Containing Asbestos - Fabrication and Removal

SCOPE This procedure is designed to give minimum safety/health/ environmental requirements when fabricating, handling, or removing gaskets containing asbestos.

HAZARDS Exposure to asbestos fibers can increase the risk of developing certain diseases. Refer to MP-I-6.

PHILOSOPHY Employees working with asbestos materials are required to practice good personal hygiene and safe work practices. Thye are also required to limit exposure to asbestos by wearing the proper respiratory protection and following the proper guidelines and work practices.

PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMITS

Asbestos dust concentrations must not exceed an 8-hour Time Weighted Average (TWA): .2 fibers longer than 5 micrometers, per cubic centimeter of air. At no time may the "ceiling" concentration exceed 10 fibers (longer than 5 micrometers) per cubic centimeter of air.

WORK PRACTICES

These work practices apply to the use of non-friable asbestos-containing compressed material when furnished as precut gaskets or in sheets and rolls.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
UC-4818

Operations to which these work practices apply include:

A. Storage
B. Identification
C. Fabrication
D. Installation
E. Replacement
F. Housekeeping
G. Waste Disposal

A. Storage

Gasket materials are typically received in three forms: sheets, rolls, and precut gaskets. Storage areas should be kept clean and dust free, either by wet sweeping or with the use of a vacuum cleaner fitted with a high efficiency particulate aerosol (HEPA) filter. Contact the plant B & R Insulator Foreman for a properly equipped vacuum cleaner.

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Union Carbide trial exhibit UC-4818: Seadrift Plant Maintenance Procedure MP-I-46 on Fabricating and Removing... Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
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B. Identification

New gaskets and bulk gasket material containing asbestos should be identified using the yellow and black stick-on labels, stores item (63486160).

C. Fabrication

1. Handpunching

Bolt holes are often made with the use of a hand punch and mallet. If feasible, the material should be dampened while it is being worked. Areas where hand punching takes place should be kept clean and dust free. Scraps of waste should be disposed of in the proper manner (see waste disposal section).

2. Hand Shaping

Hand shaping of gaskets is carried out with the use of a scribe, pocket knife, or scissors. Gasket sizes are scribed onto a flat sheet of asbestos gasket material and then cut by the use of scissors or a pocket knife. The gasket material should be dampened during scribing and cutting, if feasible. In this operation, as in others involving asbestos, work areas should be kept clean and dust free and waste scraps should be promptly disposed of in the proper manner (see waste disposal section).

NOTE:

1. Large pieces of gasket material left after the fabrication operation may be returned to storage for future use.

D. Gasket Replacement - Removal and Installation

Replacing gaskets often requires the use of a scraper or wire brush to remove all of the old gasket material from the flange surface, before a new gasket is put into place. Begin by prying or levering off the old gasket with a knife or scraper in order to remove it in the largest possible pieces. When practicable, surfaces to be scraped, ground, or brushed should be wetted. If wetting is allowed, respiratory protection and/or glove bags will not be required. If wetting is not allowed, the glove bag method and/or respiratory protection may be required. The protection required should be evaluated on a job-by-job basis. If unusual conditions exist or there are questions about whether glove bags or respirators should be required, the Industrial Hygiene Department must be contacted prior to beginning work.

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1. Some gaskets may be coated or surface treated with a parting agent so that when gaskets are removed, there is no need for excess grinding, scraping or brushing.

2. Other special gaskets, such as asbestos filled Flexitallic, double jacketed asbestos filled, etc. require no special handling under normal conditions. If these type gaskets are damaged exposing asbestos, the above requirements apply.

E. Housekeeping and Waste Disposal

Airborne asbestos dust created by the lack of good housekeeping has the potential for harm to employees and others. Keep work areas clean by wet wiping or wet sweeping, or by vacuuming with a unit equipped with a high efficiency particulate aerosol (HEPA) filter. NEVER DRY SWEEP OR BLOW ASBESTOS WITH COMPRESSED AIR.

F. Waste Disposal

Scraps from gasket cutting, old gaskets, materials used to clean up dust and waste, etc. are considered plant hazardous waste and must be bagged in approved disposal bags, stores item (14-103-602) and disposed of in the plant non-hazardous landfill. An "order for waste removal" form must be obtained from the E.P. Department.

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