

Chapter 12.2

Policy and Purpose

1. Policy

Chapter 1.0 of this handbook contains JSC's basic safety and health policy. Chapter 5.7 of this handbook discusses asbestos for the general JSC population. For asbestos control, it is JSC policy to:

- a. Manage-in place all ACM at the center. JSC shall follow all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and guidelines to manage and control asbestos hazards on JSC property.
- b. Create, maintain, and make available for employees to review all medical and exposure monitoring records as prescribed in OSHA regulations 29 CFR 1910.20, 1910.1001, and 1926.1101.
- c. Never to expose unprotected and untrained personnel to more than 0.01 fiber per cubic centimeter (f/cc) of asbestos as an 8-hour TWA concentration. This level is based on the EPA "safe occupancy" level for reentry after an asbestos abatement project.
- d. Never allow occupational exposures of workers performing asbestos-related activities to exceed the OSHA PEL of 0.1 f/cc (29 CFR 1910.1001, 29 CFR 1926.1101) unless protected by the appropriate level of respiratory protection and other PPE.

2. Purpose

Part 12 provides the information, guidance, standards, and procedures necessary to implement NASA and JSC policy relating to asbestos-related activities. The definitive procedures in Part 12 and the basic policies of federal regulations provide a basis for asbestos-related activities at JSC.

3. Program objectives

The following are the objectives of the JSC Asbestos Control Program (ACP):

- a. The goal of the JSC ACP is to manage-in place the ACM in JSC buildings and facilities in a manner that minimizes asbestos exposure to building occupants, service workers, and the environment. To accomplish this, the ACP is designed to:
 1. Remove asbestos debris that may have been released from the ACM.
 2. Avoid or control disturbances of the ACM during building activities to eliminate or greatly reduce the release of fibers.
 3. Remove or repair damaged ACM.
 4. Implement a program of removal of asbestos materials as part of the JSC Facility Maintenance and Construction of Facilities Programs, as feasible.
 5. Isolate and respond to episodic, potential fiber release incidents.

Part 12, Asbestos Control Requirements

6. Properly manage and dispose of asbestos waste.
- b. The focus is on service workers and workers involved in operations removing ACM since their activities are most likely to release asbestos fibers. These activities include building renovation, maintenance, repair work on building systems, and routine cleaning and custodial work.
- c. All tasks involving potential asbestos exposure require some degree of control. Hence, Part 12 covers the removal of even one ceiling tile in a building known to contain SAI. The degree of control is tailored to the potential of exposure to workers and to building occupants.

4. Program elements

To achieve program objectives, the ACP shall:

- a. Alert building occupants to the existence and location of ACM and to the need for not disturbing it through awareness training (e.g.: Hazard Communication, etc.).
- b. Establish appropriate work practices for cleaning and maintaining the buildings.
- c. Establish procedures for minimizing ACM disturbances during demolition and renovation projects.
- d. Establish procedures for removing ACM.
- e. Establish procedures for collecting and removing fibers after a release episode.
- f. Establish procedures for those workers exposed at, or above, the action level for medical surveillance, training, and compliance with the existing respiratory protection program.

5. Alternate procedures

Use procedures specified in Part 12 for all asbestos-related activities at JSC. If specified procedures cannot be used because conditions significantly vary from those for which the Part 12 procedures were developed, make a written request to the APM (JE) providing details of the problem encountered, the recommended alternatives, and a project design. The procedures provided in the project design shall provide protection equivalent to or greater than the procedures they replace. The APM shall approve any project design for an alternate procedure in writing.

6. Other asbestos-related activities

Asbestos-related activities not specified in Part 12 or those outside the limiting scope of an existing procedure require the development of a project design, including health and safety procedures. The JSC APM or his or her designated representative shall approve the design.