



Volume III, Issue No. 2
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Inside this Issue

- 1 Notifications...
- 1 Training Room...
- 2 Training Room continued...
- 2 Document Altering...
- 2 Do you see any problem with that?

Just a reminder... The Asbestos Program has extensive information available on the website including frequently asked questions (FAQs), homeowner information, ODH memorandums, lists, rules (Ohio Administrative Code 3701-34), and ODH forms. The website address is www.odh.state.oh.us. Feel free to contact us with any questions or comments.

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ASBESTOS PROGRAM UPDATE

Notifications...

By Josh Koch, Sanitarian Program Specialist II

Many people who I have talked with during training course audits have expressed interest in knowing how many prior notifications ODH receives each year for asbestos abatement activities, as well as asbestos training courses. The first table below shows the number of prior notifications received for asbestos abatement projects over the past few years. The second table details the number of prior notifications received for asbestos training courses since that database was created in 1999 and training providers were required to notify using the ODH approved form.

Prior Notification of Asbestos Hazard Abatement Project	
Year	# of Notifications
1998	2,498
1999	2,207
2000	2,263
2001	2,308

Prior Notification of Asbestos Training Course		
Year	# of Notifications	# of Cancellations
1999*	461	94
2000	945	276
2001	895	313

* Numbers are representative for months of June through December only.

Training Room...

By Josh Koch, Sanitarian Program Specialist II

ODH has conducted several on-site audits with the purpose of establishing final approval for ODH approved training courses. The information provided in this section of the Update is based on concerns and issues observed during these on-site audits.

Cell Phone/Pager Problems!

ODH understands that emergencies happen. However, ODH has observed excessive use of cell phones and response to pages during training course instruction. It becomes distracting to students as well as instructors. ODH recommends that instructors address this issue at the beginning of class and encourage students to respond to these issues during breaks and lunch.

Is Your Student In The Right Course?

ODH understands that today's work force in the asbestos industry is highly diverse in language and culture. ODH encourages training providers to make sure that students participating in their approved training course do not have any language barrier issues.

In addition, ODH would like to stress the EPA's recommendation that refresher course training providers confirm that their students possess valid accreditation before granting course admission. ODH has discovered a few students who were allowed to sit through worker refresher training when

Continued on Page 2

the students had actually taken contractor/supervisor initial training.

Training Course Prior Notification

Prior Notification of Asbestos Training Course forms may be faxed to (614) 752-4157 or mailed to the Ohio Department of Health, Attn: Asbestos Program, 246 N. High Street, P.O. Box 118, Columbus, Ohio, 43216-0118.

ODH staff has noticed that several training providers are listing numerous instructors for a training course and then forgetting to revise the notification to reflect the names of only the instructors who actually participated in the course.

An inaccurate notification means that ODH will have an inaccurate record for your training course. Please remember to revise a notification if any information on the notification has changed or is inaccurate.

Document Altering...

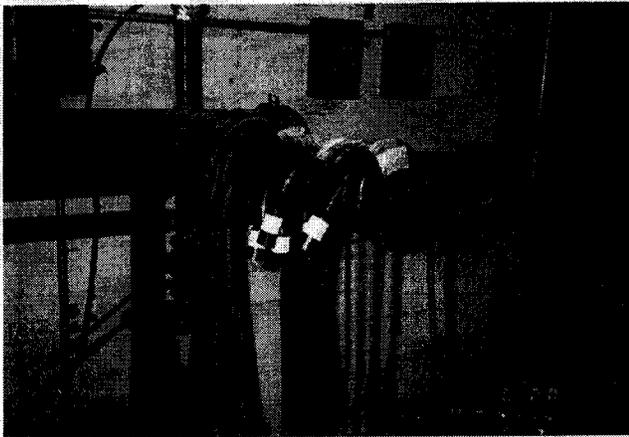
By Josh Koch, Sanitarian Program Specialist II

ODH has detected several individuals who are believed to be submitting fraudulent documentation to asbestos contractors at job sites.

ODH believes these individuals have altered several documents including copies of ODH certification, training, and physicians' written opinions.

An individual's start in the asbestos abatement industry begins with training. The training provider plays a major role in helping regulatory agencies deter fraud. Subtle details such as patterned backgrounds and unique certificate numbers on training certificates make it difficult for individuals to alter these documents. ODH appreciates efforts taken by training providers to prevent their documents from being altered.

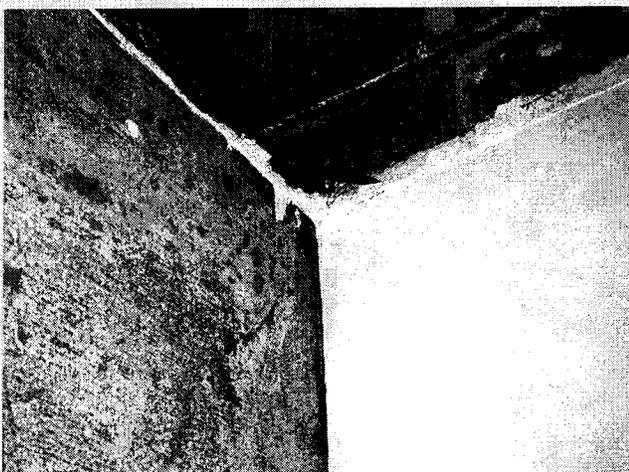
Do you see any problem with that?



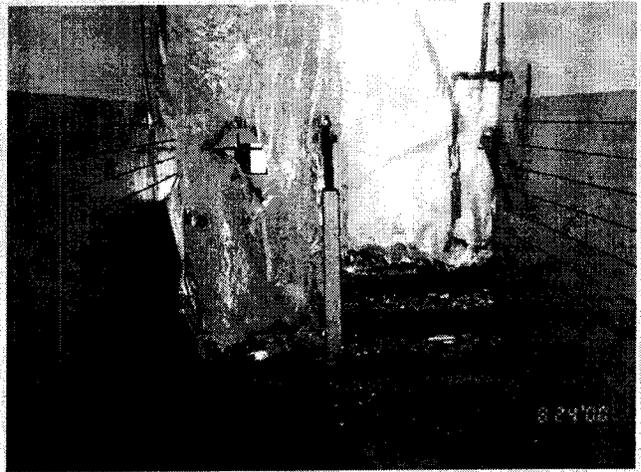
Proper cassette placement for final clearance of the room?



Intact cementitious siding? Friable?



Job is complete? Passed final clearance?



Debris outside work area? Breach of containment? PHE?