



labour

Department:
Labour
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Memo

To: ASBESTOS CONTRACTORS AND ASBESTOS APPROVED INSPECTION AUTHORITIES

From: THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR

CC: DIRECTOR GENERAL

Date: 25 NOVEMBER 2009

Re: DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR'S EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DEFINITION FOR DEMOLITION WORK

This interpretation and explanatory note does not replace the Asbestos Regulations of 2002. It is intended to give practical insight into the practical application of Regulations 1 definition for "Demolition Work" of the Asbestos Regulations and the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1993.

Regulation 1 of the Asbestos Regulations, 2002 defines "**Demolition Work**" as follows:

"Demolition Work" is defined as: - includes demolition, alteration, stripping, removing, repair, gleaning of any spilt asbestos, or high-pressure water jetting of any structure containing asbestos lagging or insulation, but does not include work performed on asbestos cement sheeting and related products and asbestos cement products that form part of the structure of a workplace, building, plant or premises.

The interpretation of this definition is as follows:

1. At any given time where Asbestos work is done, that work will be regarded as demolition work if it includes:
 - o demolition, alteration, stripping, removing, repair, gleaning of any spilt asbestos, high-pressure water jetting of any structure containing asbestos lagging or insulation
2. However, where work is done on an asbestos cement product and that area is not removed, stripped or repaired and continues to form part of the structure of a workplace, building, plant or premises and at any stage that work does not cause the asbestos fibers to be airborne, that work is not regarded as demolition work
3. Until such time that the Asbestos Regulations of 2002 are amended, the above-mentioned definition for demolition work shall be interpreted as discussed in this document.

SIGNED BY: MR. T. LAMATI


CHIEF INSPECTOR

25/11/2009
DATE