

# TOOL-BOX TALK



## ASBESTOS AWARENESS

The aspect that must be considered when working with or near asbestos is exposure to harmful levels of asbestos dust.

### The Facts

- Asbestos breaks into tiny, long, sharp fibres. These fibres can get lodged in the lungs and scar them, causing asbestosis or fibrosis. This can lead to lung cancer.
- Smokers are at a greater risk of asbestos related diseases.
- The most common use of asbestos is in the following products:
  - Sprayed asbestos fire protection
  - Asbestos cement building products
  - Asbestos insulating board
  - Asbestos millboards
  - Textured ceiling finishes (ie paint and artex)
  - Roofing felt
  - Floor tiles and coverings
  - Lagging
- On no account must work involving the installation, disturbance, or stripping out, of asbestos materials or coatings be undertaken by company employees unless they are fully trained in asbestos removal, have appropriate PPE, and the responsible manager has supplied them with a permit to work.
- Do not blow dust out of brake drums or clutch housings with an air-line. Use proper drum-cleaning equipment or wet rags, and put used rags in a plastic waste bag before they dry out.
- Never use a brush to clean up asbestos dust. Use a special vacuum cleaner or wet the dust thoroughly and scrape it up.
- Do not grind, drill or abrade asbestos unless the machine is fitted with a vacuum filtration system.
- Wear the personal protective equipment which is specified by the manager. Put disposable overalls in a plastic waste bag after use and tie firmly.
- Never dispose of asbestos waste unless you have been given specific instructions to do so from your manager.

REMEMBER, IF YOU SUSPECT ASBESTOS IS PRESENT, STOP WORK IMMEDIATELY AND INFORM YOUR SUPERVISOR.

### Attendance Signatures

<i>(Sign)</i>	<i>(Date)</i>

Additional training and information can be found in the LDD Environmental Health & Safety policies.

Training Provided by (Signature) : \_\_\_\_\_