



Top 10 Reasons to Ban Asbestos Now

1. Asbestos is a known human carcinogen.
2. The United States and Canada are the last two industrial nations not to ban asbestos. More than 50 countries have banned asbestos as of 11.17.2009.
3. The World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that there are approximately 125 million people in the world who are exposed to asbestos in the workplace.
4. More than 10,000 Americans die each year from exposure to asbestos and the number is rising. It is projected that in the next decade asbestos diseases will kill the lives of at least 100,000 Americans alone.
5. Once airborne, microscopic asbestos fibers can be carried hundreds of miles away from its source.
6. Inhaling or swallowing asbestos fibers can cause permanent and irreversible damage to vital organs. Asbestos fibers can cause asbestosis, lung and gastrointestinal cancers, and an aggressive cancer called mesothelioma. Mesothelioma patients' average life expectancy is six - twelve months.
7. Asbestos remains a consumer threat today. ADAO's 2007 Product Testing Report revealed 5 products were contaminated with asbestos, including a toy.
8. Asbestos diseases have a long latency period from initial exposure to development of disease from 50 years or longer; are difficult to diagnose as it mimics other ailments; difficult to treat, often incurable and frequently deadly.
9. The World Health Organization (WHO) International Labor Organization (ILO), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Surgeon General currently state that there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos.
10. Asbestos has been mined, used for a broad range of products, materials and applications including but not exclusive to construction, insulation, shipyards and before many other industries.