Asbestos is not banned and is responsible for a lethal worldwide epidemic. Every day, 30 Americans die of asbestos related diseases and the deaths are steadily increasing.

Asbestos exposure is linked numerous diseases, such as **asbestosis, lung & gastrointestinal cancers**, and an aggressive cancer called **mesothelioma**. Inhaling asbestos fibers can cause permanent and irreversible damage to vital organs. Disease occurs 10 - 50 years after exposure. The undiagnosed need to **STOP AND THINK** about possible occupational or environmental asbestos exposure when asked by their doctors.

Heavy industrial asbestos exposure occurred prior to 1980 in the following industries:
Automotive
Construction
Shipbuilding

Early detection is often difficult; asbestos related disease symptoms are generally vague and can be easily confused with other illnesses such as pneumonia. Only a doctor can properly diagnose asbestos related diseases.

Below is a list of common and general asbestos related disease early warning symptoms.

- Persistent pain in the lower back, shoulder or chest wall
- Shortness of breath
- Appearance of lump or mass on chest wall
- New onset of persistent dry cough
- Coughing up blood
- Persisting loss of energy, fatigue or anemia
- Losing weight for no apparent reason
- Onset of hoarseness or a change in voice
- Persistent swelling of face and/or arms
- Muscle weakness
- Abdominal pain and or distention
- Nausea and or vomiting
- Fluid in the abdominal cavity or in the chest lining

The **Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization** continues to unite asbestos victims (patients, families and friends), concerned citizens, physicians, labor unions and asbestos organizations around the world.