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Title: 6.25 - ASBESTOS-CONTAINING FLOOR TILE MAINTENANCE ESOP

Related: MCIEAST-MCB CAMLEJO: 5090.62A

1. Purpose: This ESOP establishes the procedures for the maintenance of resilient asbestos containing floor tile and other floor coverings that contain asbestos. The United States EPA and the OSHA both require specific work practices to prevent the release of asbestos fibers to the building occupants to the environment.

2. Applicability: This ESOP is applicable to all personnel, including contractor personnel, who work in or occupy any building aboard MCB CAMLEJ and MCAS NR.

3. Responsibility: All personnel who perform maintenance to any resilient floor covering containing asbestos must take the identified necessary precautions and be aware of the safe work practices associated with avoiding and minimizing asbestos exposure.

4. Procedure

a. Wet Strip Floor Wax from Resilient Asbestos Flooring. This work practice covers the procedures for stripping floor wax or finish from resilient asbestos flooring. Do not strip damaged flooring. Any loose or damaged flooring should be repaired or replaced before stripping is started. Wet stripping, if performed properly, should not cause damage to resilient flooring. If any flooring damage occurs during stripping, work must be stopped immediately and Public Works must be notified to repair the floor. A work ticket will be generated and the flooring will be repaired or replaced. Do not dry strip, scrape, sand, or grind resilient asbestos flooring to remove any blemishes or imperfections.

(1) Place tools, equipment, and materials needed in work area. Place walk-off mats where required to prevent tracking of stripping solution to other areas. Position "Caution - Wet Floor" signs.

(2) After proper mixing of stripping chemical, adequately wet the floor by mop applying liberal amounts of the solution. Allow chemical to soak for the amount of time recommended by the manufacturer. If the area becomes dry, reapply solution to keep floor adequately wet.

(3) After wax or finish has softened, strip flooring using the least abrasive pad and low speed setting (300 revolutions per minute (RPM) maximum. Keep floor adequately wet during machine operation. Do not over strip. Stop stripping when old wax or finish is removed. Work small areas at a time.

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(4) Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or "strip" mop.

(5) With "rinse" mop, apply liberal amount of clean water to area stripped and remove water with wet vacuum or mop. Repeat rinse procedures.

(6) If some spots of wax or finish remain, re-strip those areas.

(7) If new flooring will be installed over the stripped floor, do not apply wax or finish. When applying new wax or finish, do so according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

b. Dry or Spray Buffing Resilient Asbestos Flooring. This work practice covers the procedures for spray buffing the polish to restore gloss on resilient asbestos flooring. Do not buff damaged flooring. Any loose or damaged flooring should be repaired or replaced before buffing is started. This practice assumes that the floor has adequate coats of polish, and that the flooring itself will not be damaged or contacted by the buffing equipment. If any flooring damage occurs during buffing, work must be stopped immediately and Public Works must be notified to repair the floor.

(1) Place tools, equipment, and materials needed in work area. Position "Caution-Wet Floor" signs.

(2) Pick up any large loose debris and place into disposal bags. If the material is asbestos containing, call Supervisor or Officer-in-Charge for guidance and reporting to EMD. Using scraper and water, remove all foreign matter from the finished surface (e.g., gum, tar, etc).

(3) Spot or damp mop to remove stains and spills. Mix chemical cleaner or restorer with water and apply according to the manufacturers recommendations. If dry buffing will be performed, apply restorer chemical as required.

(4) Allow floor to dry thoroughly.

(5) Spray or dry buff as appropriate

(a) To spray-buff, spray small area with spray-buff solution and buff using manufacturer's recommended pad or brush at recommended RPM. Repeat procedure until area is spray-buffed.

(b) To dry-buff, buff or dry burnish with manufacturer's recommended pad or brush at recommended RPM.

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c. DO NOT SAND, GRIND, CHIP, OR USE ANY OTHER MECHANICAL TOOLS TO REMOVE FLOOR COVERING. IF FLOOR COVERING IS DAMAGED, CALL YOUR S-4 OR FACILITIES CHIEF TO SUBMIT A WORK TICKET REQUEST TO THE PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION.