

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION 427.09
LABELLING OF ASBESTOS PRODUCTS
REGULATIONS

1st July, 2001

LEGAL NOTICE 60 of 2001.

1.1 The title of these regulations is the Labelling of Asbestos Products Regulations. Title.

2.1 These regulations shall apply to the labelling of products containing the following asbestos fibres: Applicability.

- crocidolite, CAS No 12001-284;
- amosite, CAS No 12172-73-5;
- anthophyllite asbestos, CAS No 77536-67-5;
- actinolite asbestos, CAS No 77536-664;
- tremolite asbestos, CAS No 77536-68-6;
- chrysotile, CAS No 12001-29-5.

3.1 All products containing asbestos or the packaging thereof shall bear the label defined as follows: Labelling of asbestos products.

3.1.1 The label conforming to the specimen given in the Schedule shall be at least 5 cm high (H) and 2.5 cm wide;

3.1.2 The label shall consist of two parts:

- the top part (h1 = 40% H) shall include the letter 'a' in white, on a black background,
- the bottom part (h2 = 60% H) shall include the standard wording in white and/or black, on a red background, and shall be clearly legible.

3.1.3 If the product contains crocidolite, the words "contains asbestos" used in the standard wording shall be replaced by "contains crocidolite/blue asbestos".

3.1.4 If labelling takes the form of direct printing on the products, a single colour contrasting with the background colour is sufficient.

3.2 The label mentioned in regulation 3.1.1 shall be affixed in accordance with the following rules:

3.2.1 on each of the smallest units supplied;

3.2.2 if a product has asbestos-based components, it is sufficient for these components only to bear the label. The labelling may be dispensed with if smallness of size or unsuitability of packaging make it impossible for a label to be affixed to the component.

3.3 The following particulars shall appear on clearly legible and indelible labelling on the packaging of packaged products containing asbestos: Labelling of packaged products containing asbestos.

3.3.1 the symbol and relevant indications of danger in accordance with the Schedule;

3.3.2 safety instructions which must be selected in accordance with the particulars in regulation 4, inasmuch as they are relevant for the particular product.

3.4 Where additional safety information is provided on the packaging, this shall not weaken or contradict the particulars given in accordance with regulations 3.3.1 and 3.3.2.

3.5 Labelling in accordance with regulation 3.3 shall be effected by means of:

- a label firmly affixed to the packaging, or
- a (tie-on) label securely attached to the package, or
- direct printing of the packaging.

3.6 Products containing asbestos and which are packaged only in loose plastic wrapping or the like shall be regarded as packaged products and shall be labelled in accordance with regulation 3.5. If products are separated from such packages and placed on the market unpackaged, each of the smallest units supplied shall be accompanied by labelling particulars in accordance with regulation 3.3.

3.7 For unpackaged products containing asbestos, labelling in accordance with regulation 3.3 shall be effected by means of:

- a label firmly affixed to the product containing asbestos, or
- a (tie-on) label securely attached to such product, or
- direct printing on the products,

or, if the abovementioned is not reasonably practicable as in the case of, for example, smallness of size of the product, the unsuitable nature of the product's properties or certain technical difficulties, by means of a hand-out with labelling in accordance with regulation 3.3.

Labelling of unpackaged products containing asbestos.

Safety instructions.

4. Without prejudice to other provisions on safety and hygiene at work, the label affixed to the product which may, in the context of its use, be processed or finished, should be accompanied by any safety instructions which may be appropriate for the product concerned, and in particular by the following:

- operate if possible out of doors or in a well-ventilated place,
- preferably use hand tools or low-speed tools equipped, if necessary, with an appropriate dust-extraction facility. If high-speed tools are used, they should always be equipped with such a facility,
- if possible, dampen before cutting or drilling,
- dampen dust and place it in a properly closed receptacle and dispose of it safely.

5. The labelling of any product intended for domestic use which is not covered by regulation 4 and which is likely, during use, to release asbestos fibres should, if necessary, contain the following safety instruction: “replace when worn”.

Labelling of product intended for domestic use.

6. The labelling of products containing asbestos shall be given in at least one of the official languages of Malta.

Language requirements.

Schedule

Label to be used for asbestos products

