

Safety
Consultants of
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The following decontamination procedures are intended for employees who are required to work in asbestos contaminated areas or who have conducted small scale clean up of asbestos debris.

Outer protective clothing should be decontaminated using any of the following methods.

Employee Decontamination Using the WET METHOD

- A. Decontamination should be done in areas that are free from unprotected employees, asbestos debris, and never in the path of direct ventilation.
- B. Standing on a layer of polyethylene use water to gently mist (with a garden sprayer, spray bottle, or in a shower) the outside of clothing, face, respirator, and hair to lock down any loose fibers. This may require a co-employee assistance to ensure the employee's back is also wet.
- C. After employee is adequately wet gently remove clothing slowly turning arm sleeves and pants legs inside out during the process.
- D. While standing on the disposable clothing, decontaminate soles and boots. Roll clothing in a bundle and dispose of in an approved disposal bag.
- E. Remove respirator and place in a plastic bag for cleaning.

Employee Decontamination Using the HEPA VACUUM METHOD

- A. Decontamination should be done in areas that are free from unprotected employees, asbestos debris, and never in the path of direct ventilation.
- B. Gently vacuum (using only an approved HEPA vacuum) the outside of clothing, face, respirator, and hair to lock down any loose fibers. **USE CAUTION NOT TO VACUUM TOO CLOSE TO EARS OR EYES, THIS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.** This may require a co-employee assistance to ensure the employee's back has been thoroughly vacuumed.
- C. Once vacuuming has been completed, employee should gently remove clothing slowly turning arm sleeves and pants legs inside out during the process.
- D. While standing on the disposable clothing, decontaminate soles and boots. Roll clothing in a bundle and dispose of in an approved disposal bag.
- E. Remove respirator and place in a plastic bag for cleaning.

Employee Decontamination Using the RE-SUIT METHOD

(This method should be used when working inside an area where disposable clothing will be ripped and torn because of tight working conditions. Employees will don their old clothing or scrubs provided by UAB.)

- A. Decontamination should be done in areas that are free from unprotected employees, asbestos debris, and never in the path of direct ventilation.
- B. Immediately after leaving the contaminated area put a new disposable suite over the contaminated clothing and proceed to an isolated area suitable for decontamination. (An isolated area or a shower would be ideal). Be sure to have your personal change of clothing available.
- C. Standing on a layer of polyethylene use water to gently mist (using a garden sprayer or spray bottle) the outside of clothing, face, respirator, and hair to lock down any loose fibers. This may require assistance from a co-employee to ensure the employee's back is also wet.
- D. After employee is adequately wet gently remove clothing slowly turning arm sleeves and pants legs inside out during the process.
- E. While standing on the disposable clothing, decontaminate soles and boots. Roll clothing in a bundle and dispose of in an approved disposal bag.
- F. Remove respirator and place in a plastic bag for cleaning.