



Safety Alert

Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union

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9221 1055

www.cfmeuwa.com

FIBREGLASS AND ROCKWOOL PROCEDURE JULY 1995

- Workers carrying out handling and cutting (hand tools only) **Must wear:**
 - a) Lightweight Overalls
 - b) Gloves
 - c) P3 Respirator
 - d) Hair Covering
- Workers **MUST** be trained in the proper use, fitting and maintenance of personal protective equipment (PPE). Adequate supplies of PPE and maintenance consumables are to be kept on site.
- A minimum three (3) metre exclusion zone around the perimeter of the area where insulation work is to be undertaken is to be provided and persons not involved in the process and who are not protected with the proper PPE are not to enter. However, where an assessment shows that wind or other factors may distribute fibres further than 3 metres the zone will need to be increased. In a room which has dimensions less than the 3 metres the doorway must be closed off to prevent entry.
- Warning signs to be erected around the perimeter of the work area and where appropriate outside the closed off doorways.
- Fibreglass and rockwool products must be stored in a secure area and only enough taken out for each days work. (Good housekeeping) Double handling should be minimised.
- All products are to be sealed on both sides with sisalation or similar material and, wherever possible, be cut to size in a secure area or off site.
- The areas where insulation work has been undertaken must be vacuumed before other workers commence work in those areas.
- The bags containing the fibreglass/rockwool should only be opened at the workplace when required.
- Any employee may choose, is he/she believes there is a risk to their health to refuse to use fibreglass/rockwool products and should not be discriminated against by their employer.

Note: The ultimate aim of the Unions is to eliminate the need for workers to take such steps to protect their health and well being. Workers should be demanding that their employer provide safe insulation products on site – alternatives to fibreglass/rockwool are available in the marketplace.

Report unsafe sites and safety procedures call 9221 1055 Text 0419 812 861