

# The Asbestos Advisor: A Compliance Assistance Tool

Contributed by AIA Knowledge Resources Staff

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## CONSULT YOUR ATTORNEY

The information herein should not be regarded as a substitute for legal advice. Readers are strongly advised to consult an attorney for advice regarding any matter related to asbestos, asbestos abatement, and job-site exposure to asbestos.

## SUMMARY

The Asbestos Advisor—a desktop software application publicly available from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)—provides useful information about compliance with OSHA Regulation 1926.1101, *Asbestos Standard for Construction*. This standard regulates asbestos exposure in all work for construction, alteration, and/or repair, including painting and decorating.

## THE ASBESTOS ADVISOR

The Asbestos Advisor is an interactive compliance-assistance tool. Users may answer a series of questions about buildings and work sites and the kinds of tasks construction workers perform there. The application then guides the user to information about how the *Asbestos Standard* may apply to those buildings and the work involved. It can provide either general or project-specific guidance, and pop-up definitions provide useful explanations. The program consists of five parts or functions:

- General guidance
- Individual project guidance
- Glossary
- Frequently asked questions
- Detailed text of regulations

Version 2.0 reflects updates for revisions, corrections, and clarifications of the OSHA rule published in the *Federal Register* on September 29, 1995, and August 23, 1996. The program is not intended to replace or amend the official text of the regulation (as published in 29 CFR 1910.1001 [general industry], 1915.1001 [shipbuilding], and

1926.1101 [construction]) but may introduce users to the scope and logic of the regulation and summary guidance to facilitate compliance. The Asbestos Advisor 2.0 can be downloaded from the OSHA Web page, found at the following URL:

<http://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/oshasoft/asbestos/index.html>

## READ THE FINE PRINT

Despite efforts to ensure accuracy, any guidance from the program should not be relied upon as comprehensive or binding on the government. The program lets users view and print the full text of regulations on selected topics. They are advised to read the full text of the OSHA *Asbestos Standards* (29 CFR 1910, 1915, and 1926) and to seek appropriate legal counsel.

## REFERENCES

*Asbestos Standard for Construction*, OSHA 29 CFR 1926.1101

*Construction Work*, OSHA 29 CFR 1910.12

## RESOURCES

### More Best Practices

The following AIA Best Practices provide additional information related to this topic:

- 11.02.05 Quality Control: A Specifications Preparation Checklist
- 16.02.07 Going Green: Where to Find Green Product Info

## Feedback

The AIA welcomes member feedback on Best Practice articles. To provide feedback on this article, please contact: [bestpractices@aia.org](mailto:bestpractices@aia.org).

## Key Terms

- Building performance
- Use design
- Life safety