

An official website of the United States government.

We've made some changes to EPA.gov. If the information you are looking for is not here, you may be able to find it on the EPA Web Archive or the January 19, 2017 Web Snapshot.

Close



List of Uses Covered under April 2019 Final Rule; Restrictions on Discontinued Uses of Asbestos

The following table contains a list of the products covered under EPA's April 2019 final rule to ensure that asbestos products that are no longer on the market cannot return to commerce without the Agency evaluating them and putting in place any necessary restrictions or prohibiting use.

- [Read the final rule.](#)
- [Frequent questions on the April 2019 final rule.](#)
- [Learn more about the final rule and other EPA actions to protect the public from asbestos exposure.](#)

Product Category	Description of the Product Category
Adhesives, Sealants, and Roof and Non-Roof Coatings	The automobile industry historically used asbestos in a wide variety of adhesive, sealant, and coating applications. The aerospace industry used asbestos in extremely specialized applications such as firewall sealants and epoxy adhesives. Non-roof coatings were used to prevent corrosion (e.g. as vehicle undercoatings and underground pipe coatings). Roof coatings were used to repair and patch roofs, seal around projections such as chimneys and vent pipes, and bond horizontal and vertical surfaces.
Arc Chutes	Ceramic arc chutes containing asbestos were used to guide electric arcs in motor starter units in electric generating plants.
Beater-Add Gaskets	Asbestos fibers were incorporated within various elastomeric binders and other fillers to form the beater-add paper. These products were used extensively for internal combustion applications and for the sealing component of spiral wound gaskets. Gaskets were used to seal one compartment of a device from another in non-dynamic applications such as engine and exhaust manifolds.

Product Category	Description of the Product Category
Cement Products*	Includes asbestos cement product categories in the 1989 Regulatory Impact Assessment: Asbestos-Cement Pipe and Fittings, Asbestos-Cement Flat Sheet, Corrugated Asbestos-Cement Sheet, and Asbestos-Cement Shingles.
Extruded Sealant Tape and Other Tape	Sealant tape was made from a semi-liquid mixture of butyl rubber and asbestos. On exposure to air, the sealant solidified forming a rubber tape about an inch wide and an eighth of an inch thick. The tape acted as a gasket for sealing building windows, automotive windshields, and mobile home windows. It was also used in the manufacture of parts for the aerospace industry and in the manufacture of insulated glass.
Filler for Acetylene Cylinders	Asbestos was used to produce a sponge-like filler, which held the liquefied acetylene gas (acetone) in suspension in the steel cylinder and pulled the acetone up through the tank as the gas was released through the oxyacetylene torch. The torch was used to weld or cut metal and sometimes used as an illuminant gas. The filler also acted as an insulator that offered fire protection in case the oxidation of the acetylene became uncontrollable.
Friction Materials (except brake blocks used in oilfield drawworks; aftermarket automotive brakes/linings; and other vehicle friction products)	Friction materials were used as braking and gear-changing (clutch) components in a variety of industrial and commercial machinery. Applications included agricultural equipment such as combines, mining and oil-well-drilling equipment, construction equipment such as cranes and hoists, heavy equipment used in various manufacturing industries (e. g., machine tools and presses), military equipment, marine engine transmissions, elevators, chain saws, and consumer appliances such as lawn mowers, washing machines, and vacuum cleaners.
High-Grade Electrical Paper	The major use of asbestos electrical paper was insulation for high temperature, low voltage applications such as in motors, generators, transformers, switch gears, and other heavy electrical apparatuses.

Product Category	Description of the Product Category
Millboard	<p>Asbestos millboard was essentially a heavy cardboard product that was used for gasketing, insulation, fireproofing, and resistance against corrosion and rot. Millboard was used in many industrial applications to include linings in boilers, kilns, and foundries; insulation in glass tank crowns, melters, refiners, and sidewalls in the glass industry; linings for troughs and covers in the aluminum, marine, and aircraft industries; and thermal protection in circuit breakers in the electrical industry. In addition, thin millboard was inserted between metal to produce gaskets. Commercial applications for millboard included fireproof linings for safes, dry-cleaning machines, and incinerators.</p>
Missile Liner	<p>A missile liner was an asbestos and rubber compound used to insulate the outer casing of the rocket from the intense heat generated in the rocket motor while the rocket fuel was burned. Rockets and rocket boosters were used to propel a number of objects including military weapons and the space shuttle.</p>
Packings	<p>Asbestos packings were dynamic or mechanical (static packings are gaskets) and used to seal fluids in devices where motion was necessary. The design of a packing is to control the amount of leakage of fluid at shafts, rods or valve systems and other functional parts or equipment requiring containment of liquids or gases. Asbestos packings were used in rotary, centrifugal, and reciprocating pumps, valves, expansion joints, soot blowers, and many other types of mechanical equipment.</p>
Pipeline Wrap	<p>Pipeline wrap was an asbestos felt product primarily used by the oil and gas industry for coating its pipelines. Asbestos pipeline wrap was also used in the coal tar enamel method of coating pipes, some above-ground applications (such as for special piping in cooling towers) and was also used by the chemical industry for underground hot water and steam piping.</p>
Reinforced Plastics	<p>Asbestos-reinforced plastics were used for electro-mechanical parts in the automotive and appliance industries and as high-performance plastics for the aerospace industry. Asbestos-reinforced plastic was typically a mixture of some type of plastic resin (usually phenolic or epoxy), a general filler (often chalk or limestone), and raw asbestos fiber.</p>

Product Category	Description of the Product Category
Roofing Felt	Asbestos roofing felt was single or multi-layered grade and used for built-up roofing. Asbestos was used in roofing felts because of its dimensional stability and resistance to rot, fire, and heat.
Separators in Fuel Cells and Batteries	In very specialized aerospace applications, asbestos functioned as an insulator and separator between the negative and positive terminals of a fuel cell/battery.
Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tile	Vinyl-asbestos floor tile was used in commercial, residential, and institutional buildings in heavy traffic areas such as supermarkets, department stores, commercial plants, kitchens, and “pivot points” – entry ways and areas around elevators.
Woven Products*	Includes Protective Clothing and Asbestos Textiles from the 1989 RIA.
Any Other Building Materials	Examples include insulation, plasters, mastics, textured paints (e.g., simulates stucco), and block filler paints (e.g., for coating masonry).
Any use of asbestos not otherwise identified	Except those uses prohibited under § 763.165 (i.e. Corrugated Paper, Rollboard, Commercial Paper Specialty Paper, Flooring Felt and New Uses (the manufacture, importation or processing of which would be initiated for the first time after August 25, 1989)) and uses of imported chrysotile (including as part of an article) that are currently ongoing in the United States (i.e. diaphragms; sheet gaskets; oilfield brake blocks; aftermarket automotive brakes/linings; other vehicle friction products; and other gaskets).
<p><i>* Not a product category described in the same terms in the Regulatory Impact Analysis; this broader product category is used generally to describe a number of specific product categories identified during the TSCA section 6 risk evaluation process.</i></p>	

LAST UPDATED ON APRIL 17, 2019

