

# Asbestos cement slates are subject to laws and regulations

Revisions to the Air Pollution Control Act strengthen measures to prevent the release of airborne asbestos fibers.

Asbestos cement slates (level 3) are also subject to laws and regulations.

## Asbestos-containing materials that are subject to laws and regulations

### Prior to the revisions

- Spray-on asbestos (level 1)
- Asbestos-containing thermal insulation (level 2)



### After the revisions

- Spray-on asbestos (level 1)
- Asbestos-containing thermal insulation (level 2)
- **Asbestos cement slates (level 3)**
- **Asbestos-containing texture coatings / finishing materials (level 3)\***

### Examples of level 3 building materials



Asbestos-containing slate (wave slate)



Asbestos-containing ceiling tiles (ceiling)



Asbestos-containing texture coating (stucco exterior wall)

\* Before the revisions, asbestos-containing finishing materials were categorized as level 1 depending on the usage but now are categorized as level 3 without exceptions.

## Asbestos cement slates are also subject to a preliminary inspection

- A preliminary inspection to determine the presence of asbestos is required prior to the demolition, renovation, or repairing of any building of structure regardless of the structure's age, size, or purpose.

**Caution: Asbestos cement slates are also subject to a preliminary inspection. Attention!**

- Regardless of whether asbestos is detected or not, the following 4 steps must be completed after the preliminary inspection:

- ① Brief the client (issue written documents)
- ② Save the result records (up to three years after construction is completed)
- ③ Keep a physical copy of the results at the construction site
- ④ Display the results on-site in a location that is clearly visible to the public

- Starting April 2022, **the preliminary inspection results** of any construction project larger than a specified scale **must be reported to the prefecture regardless of whether asbestos is detected or not.**



## A construction plan is required for projects that include preexisting asbestos cement slates

A construction plan is required prior to the demolition or renovation of a building where asbestos-containing materials were used.

### Plan details

- The name and address of the client, as well as the name of the representative, if the client is a corporation
- The location of specified construction work (construction work that involves work emitting or dispersing specified particulates)
- The type of work emitting or dispersing specified particulates, the implementation period, work methods, and the outline of work process
- The type of specified building material, as well as the locations and the size of the area where the specified building material is used
- The overview of the target building, the layout diagram, and nearby conditions
- The name and contact location of on-site supervisors of the primary contractor and sub-contractors who perform the work

## You must abide by the established regulations when demolishing or renovating a building that contains asbestos

When demolishing or renovating a building where asbestos has been detected, the primary contractor, sub-contractors, and independent contractors are required to **comply with the health and safety standards**.

In addition, the primary contractor needs to provide instruction to the sub-contractors on how to properly handle dust emissions.

### Health and safety standards for asbestos cement slates and finishing products

Asbestos cement slates	Asbestos-containing finishing materials
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Remove without cutting or breaking the material</li><li>2 If step 1 is too difficult, wet the material with a wetting agent <sup>*1</sup></li><li>3 Clean the worksite after the removal <sup>*3</sup></li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Wetting with wetting agents</li><li>2 When removing using an electric tool, isolate and cover <sup>*2</sup> the building material and wet them with wetting agents</li><li>3 After the removal, clean the work site <sup>*3</sup></li></ol>

\*1 When removing calcium silicate boards, isolate and cover the material then wet the material with a wetting agent

\*2 A negative pressure unit is not required

\*3 Remove the material before uncovering

## It's necessary to check if asbestos-containing materials have been properly removed after construction is completed.

### Check with knowledgeable specialists such as:

- An inspector
- An asbestos work supervisor (limited to the supervisor assigned to the construction site)

### Save relevant records

- Brief the client (issue documents)
- Save a copy of the records (up to three years after construction is completed)

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