

Training

Minimum recommendations for workers who participate in the DMA process are as follows:

- EPA-AHERA certified training as an asbestos worker (32-hour course).
- A license to practice in the state they are working, if required
- At least one supervisor on site should have received training in the DMA process.
- Medical clearance to conduct asbestos work and to use a respirator.
- Documented training in the following aspects of the DMA process: personal protective equipment, entry-exit procedures, MSDS for DMA, and safe use of the DMA process.

DMA Application Process

DMA solution is applied as foam since this produces higher uptake than spraying DMA liquid directly onto the asbestos containing material (ACM). Furthermore, applying DMA as foam will also minimize airborne fiber levels, which are consistently well below the PEL of 0.1 fibers/cc. DMA foam is generated by blending DMA solution and air using a static mixer. The DMA liquid is pumped from drums or pails using an air driven piston pump (manufactured by Graco Inc.) Air for the process is supplied from a compressor. The flow rates of DMA liquid and air are adjusted using a control panel which directs air and liquid to the static mixer and on to spray nozzle. An on/off trigger is incorporated at the spray nozzle in order to start and stop the flow of liquid. A flow diagram of the foam generation system is attached.

Control Panel Operation

The control panel is used to set the flow rates of the DMA liquid and compressed air. The general approach to setting these flow rates is as follows. First a spray nozzle is selected for the area to be treated. For each nozzle a suggested range of liquid flow rates has been established that provides for the optimal spray pattern. The initial liquid flow should be set within this range. The airflow should then be adjusted to yield the optimum foam consistency. Insufficient airflow results in a "wet" foam which may result in excessive dripping. An excess of air produces "dry" foam, which will necessitate additional layers of foam. If the spray operator finds the foam projection unsuitable then the liquid flow can be adjusted. To maintain the same foam consistency the air must then also be adjusted.

DMA Spray Techniques

Similar to spray painting, the application of DMA foam works best when applied in a smooth, continuous motion. The operator controls the thickness of the foam layer by the speed at which he moves back and forth. The optimum thickness of foam is roughly 1/2 inch. During the final layers of DMA application, where absorption is much slower, it is particularly important to avoid applying a thick layer of foam. The