

The relevance of an experienced computerized procedure regarding asbestos remediation

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Problem:

Asbestos removal is very complex and bureaucratically demanding activity according to the Italian asbestos ban law 257/92. Each remediation of Asbestos Containing Materials requires the drafting of a Work Plan containing generic and specific information that entails an administrative commitment and correspondence between companies and Health and Safety Units of the public Regional Health System. Same problems are encountered for the annual report to be sent to the Regional Health System according to the article 9 of the cited law.

Description of the Problem:

The Tuscan Health System developed a computerized procedure that allows direct contact between companies and Health and Safety Units, and at the same time a better monitoring of the entire remediation process without producing documentation on paper.

Results:

After one year experimentation involving 50 companies, the procedure underwent a regional regulatory provision. From year 2016 the procedure went to operation and companies had to upload all data on the regional web site. To date 590 companies used it registering 113749 Work Plans on remediation works. The procedure allows to compile automatically the annual report summarizing the work done during the previous year: approximately 250 reports arrive per year. The procedure is now slowly spreading over the national territory.

Lessons:

Through a computerized procedure, companies and Health and Safety Units are facilitated in carrying out Asbestos Containing Material remediation works in complete safety for workers and environment, as well as savings time and costs. It could be used in other countries considering that the asbestos remediation is widespread throughout Europe and beyond.

Key messages:

- The computerized procedure guarantees great economic savings for companies and the Health and Safety Units.
- It allows a control of the remediation process, countering illegal activities on these wastes.