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Asbestos Management – Engro Fertilizer Occupational Health Safety & Environment

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Engro fertilizers (ammonia-urea complex) is second largest urea producers in Pakistan with 02 operating ammonia – urea process plants. One plant being commissioned in 1960s is the oldest plant. Due to urea corrosive environment, buildings and sheds are covered with asbestos cement sheets due to properties like corrosion resistant, good insulation, highly durable and weatherproof.

However, as per recent studies asbestos containing materials (ACM) have been classified as carcinogens and can result in serial fatal diseases like asbestosis etc . Asbestos usage / installation had been banned in new building since 1999 worldwide and for existing building extensive monitoring management plan is required that must cover monitoring, safe replacement of damaged sheet, training and health check of workers . Hence Engro management had developed a comprehensive asbestos replacement plan for all buildings at site being one of the biggest environmental safety initiatives of the year. Total of 34K Sqm of plant site contains asbestos sheet and as per the plan developed, our site aims to get asbestos free by 2025.

This presentation will present:

- Asbestos replacement procedures developed in light of globally accepted practices of OSHA standards (1910.1001 and 1926.1101) along with practical limitations which include asbestos specific protective equipment's, control area development, asbestos sampling of the exposed areas, health check and training of workers
- Comparative analysis of past practices of site and similar neighboring fertilizer industries on asbestos handling .
- Practical implementation of procedure developed on Asbestos Sheet Replacement of 2200 sqM building area completed in 2022.

The presentation will prove to be a helpful aiding tool for most of the urea complexes / organizations which use asbestos sheets due to their beneficiary properties to develop an effective asbestos sheet replacement plan and safe execution model as per globally accepted practices of OSHA Standards

Biography

Maintenance Engineer working at Engro Fertilizers Limited, Pakistan with an experience of over 4 years in mechanical maintenance and implementing of process safety management and occupational health and industrial hygiene practices at site. Extensive knowledge regarding Asbestos management as per OSHA guidelines and its practical implementation in Pakistan industries.

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