

Asbestos Definitions and Classifications

ACM	(Asbestos Containing Material) – Commercial asbestos product containing more than 1% asbestos. ACM must be disposed as hazardous waste. Note: Federal OSHA and Cal-OSHA control materials containing any amount of asbestos.
ACBM	(Asbestos Containing Building Material) – AHERA/ASHARA term for material containing more than 1% asbestos in or on interior structural members or other structural components. Includes covered walkways, porticos and exterior HVAC TSI.
ACCM	(Asbestos Containing Construction Material) – California term for a manufactured construction material containing greater than .1% (one tenth of one percent) asbestos.
PACM	(Presumed Asbestos Containing Material) OSHA considers all TSI and surfacing materials installed prior to 1980 to be ACM unless proven otherwise.
Friable	Asbestos Containing Material that can be crumbled pulverized or reduced to powder by hand pressure when dry.
NOA	Naturally Occurring Asbestos. CARB defines as having >.25% by point counting.
Acm	CARB term for naturally occurring asbestos >.25% by point counting
DACM	Designated Asbestos Containing Material: Floortile installed before 1981

Categories of Asbestos Used BY EPA AHERA/ASHARA and OSHA/Cal-OSHA

TSI	(Thermal System Insulation) - “Thermal system insulation (TSI)” means ACM applied to pipes, fittings, boilers, breeching, tanks, ducts or other structural components to prevent heat loss or gain. “Thermal system insulation ACM” is thermal system insulation which contains more than 1% asbestos.
SURFACING (usually mixed on site at time of application)	“Surfacing material” means material that is sprayed, troweled-on or otherwise applied to surfaces (such as acoustical plaster on ceilings and fireproofing materials on structural members, or other materials on surfaces for acoustical, fireproofing, and other purposes). “Surfacing ACM” means surfacing material which contains more than 1% asbestos. NOTE: OSHA/Cal-OSHA do not classify skim coat, taping mud, floor tile mastic, stucco, leveling compound, and hard wall plasters or wall texturing as surfacing.
MISC.	All other ACM, including classify taping mud, floor tile mastic, stucco, leveling compound, and hard wall plasters or wall texturing as surfacing.

NESHAPS Categories for Asbestos (used by Air Quality Management Districts for Renovation and Demolition)

Category I	Cat I Non-friable Asbestos Containing Material(ACM) refers to asbestos containing packing, gaskets, resilient floor covering, Galbestos, and asphalt roofing products containing more than 1% asbestos.
Category II	Cat II Non-friable Asbestos-Containing Material (ACM) is any material that is not Cat I that contains greater than 1% asbestos.
RACM	“Regulated Asbestos-Containing Material.” – Friable manufactured asbestos material (ACM) or a Category I non-friable ACM that has become friable OR a Category I non-friable ACM that will be or has been subjected to sanding, grinding, cutting or abrading OR Category II non-friable ACM that has a high probability of becoming or has become crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by the forces expected to act on the material in the course of demolition or renovation operations. RACM should be removed prior to renovation or demolition.