



Track Circuit Resistors

Applicability

ARTC Network Wide	✓	Western Jurisdiction		New South Wales		Victoria	
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Audience	Main Points	Change History
Signal Engineers Signal Electricians Construction Engineers Project Engineers	Asbestos in some old Track Resistors Handling precautions	

Introduction

Some old track circuit resistors (pre 1985) may contain asbestos in the insulating former. Due to their age this may not be stable. They should be handled with caution

Identification

Visual characteristics for identification of the suspect track resistors have not yet been determined. It is known that asbestos was not used in construction of the resistors after 1985. Thus suspect track resistors should be identified by age of installation of the track resistor. Staff should also look for the recycling of older track resistors into newer locations.

Handling Precautions

- If the items are in service and no modification is required – then it is acceptable to leave them as they are. The resistors may be adjusted in value with the metal components as required.
- If the resistor material is cracked, then it may become unstable. It should not be interfered with and must be reported for action to the ARTC Environmental Officer.
- If the resistors are substantially damaged, then the asbestos may become unbound. Care shall be taken including the wearing of dusk masks when working with the material. Signal staff must seek advice on reviewing damaged equipment.
- There should be no drilling or other filing of the resistor material.

Disposal

When there has been identification of bonded asbestos materials, there should be minimal disturbance of the material by ARTC staff, Alliance Partners and Contractors. Disposal shall be undertaken by a licensed Asbestos Removal Contractor in accordance with the OH&S regulations for the particular state.

Other issues

Staff are reminded that old equipment locations may be constructed from fibro sheet (bonded asbestos cement). This will require special handling and disposal in accordance with the OH & S regulations for the particular state.

Issued by	Date
John Cowie, Manager Standards & Systems	08 Nov 2006