

The USEPA *Pink Book*

The proper sampling and determination of asbestos presence in any particular type of building material is referenced in the United States Environmental protection Agency's book known as the *Pink Book*. The following paragraphs summarize the requirements when conducting a proper survey for the determination of asbestos content in various materials. If these guidelines are not followed then the results of the testing of a particular material are not considered conclusive and not acceptable to governmental agencies as proof of lack of asbestos content.

A proper survey must follow the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) guidelines to identify types of materials and sampling areas, and to determine the appropriate number of samples to be collected per homogeneous area. A homogeneous material is an application of surfacing material, thermal system insulation material, or miscellaneous material that is uniform in color, texture, and vintage of application. The walk-through inspection and visual observation may reveal that suspect ACM fall under one or all of three categories. Surfacing materials designated by "Surfacing", Thermal System Insulation materials designated by "TSI", and Miscellaneous materials designated by "Miscellaneous".

Friable and Non-Friable Surfacing Material: AHERA guidelines are used to determine the minimum number of samples to be collected per homogeneous sampling area. The number of samples are based on the square footage of the material per homogeneous area in a facility. These materials are described as materials that are troweled on, applied on, or sprayed on surfaces (e.g., stucco, plaster, acoustical ceiling, structural fireproofing, etc).

The following determines the minimum number of Surfacing Material samples to be collected as required by the AHERA rule:

Size of the Surfacing Material Sampling Area	Minimum Number of Samples to be Collected
Less than 1,000 Square Feet	3
Between 1,000 and 5,000 Square Feet	5
Greater than 5,000 Square Feet	7

Miscellaneous Materials: Under AHERA guidelines, sampling of Miscellaneous Material is not recommended. Instead, these materials should be identified as suspect and documented as such. However, for the proper identification and management of ACM at a facility, at least one sample shall be collected from each suspected miscellaneous material. Sample locations are selected so as to be true representations of the majority of materials in each homogeneous area. Miscellaneous Material is described as a material that is not Surfacing or TSI but applied to structural components (e.g., flooring, roofing, ceiling tiles, transite, drywall, taping/joint compound, mastic, etc).

Thermal System Insulation (TSI) Material: AHERA guidelines are used to determine the minimum number of samples to be collected per homogeneous sampling area. At least three (3) samples must be collected from each homogeneous area of TSI Material in a facility with two possible exceptions listed below. These materials are described as materials applied to pipes, fittings, boilers, breeching, tanks,

ducts, or other structural components to prevent heat loss or gain, or water condensation, or for other purposes (e.g., pipe insulation, elbow/fitting mud, block insulation, air duct wrap/insulation, etc).

The following determines the minimum number of TSI Material samples to be collected as required by the AHERA rule. These numbers are applicable to prove a TSI material as negative for asbestos. A single sample is sufficient under this rule to show that a material contains asbestos:

Size of the TSI Material Sampling Area	Minimum Number of Samples to be Collected
TSI in General	3
Less than 6 Linear or Square Feet of Patch	1
Elbow/Fittings and Cementitious Material	Sufficient to Determine