

# SAFETY BULLETIN

## Drilling material contains asbestos

**NOTE:** This safety bulletin was amended and reissued on 8 April 2014, earlier versions should be removed from circulation.

### BACKGROUND

A product sometimes used in drilling fluids has been found to contain asbestos.

### CIRCUMSTANCES

The product is called AMC NUTPLUG. It contains crushed nutshells and is used to re-establish circulation of drilling fluid when lost.

The name nut plug is a generic name used by different drilling fluid suppliers. The version distributed by AMC has been found to contain asbestos and has been removed from the market. No other supplier's product has been affected at this stage.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The contaminated AMC NUTPLUG product is not to be used in drilling fluids. If contaminated AMC NUTPLUG is identified, it should be quarantined and removed by specialist waste removal experts for safe disposal.

If contaminated AMC NUTPLUG is identified, operators can contact the Environment Protection Authority and WorkCover for further information on safe removal of asbestos.

If continuing to use nut plug products, a copy of testing results should be requested from the supplier to ensure their product is not contaminated.

**NOTE:** Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this safety bulletin, and are informed of its content and recommendations. This safety bulletin should be processed in a systematic manner through the mine's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the mine's notice board.

### Signed



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