



Johns Manville Fiber Glass is Safe to Manufacture and Use

For safety in use and installation, you can specify JM fiber glass insulation with confidence.

Over 60 years of product use and independent testing confirm the safety of fiber glass.

JM fiber glass insulation products have been manufactured and marketed for over 60 years. Throughout that time, extensive medical and scientific research has been conducted and reviewed by various U.S. and world health agencies to determine the safety of working with fiber glass throughout the process of manufacturing, installation, and commercial and residential use. The research has consistently verified the safety of fiber glass. Insulation fiber glass was found to be safe for workers to manufacture, install, and use when appropriate work practices are followed, preventing temporary mechanical irritation. Insulation fiber glass is also safe for the building occupants who enjoy the lasting thermal and acoustical comfort benefits of insulation fiber glass.

Did you know...

- In 2001, the **World Health Organization's** International Agency for Research on Cancer ("IARC") removed insulation glass fibers from its list of possible carcinogens. Based on the review by an international panel of experts, the IARC reported that "...studies published during the 15 years since the previous IARC Monographs review of these fibers in 1988 provide no evidence of increased risks of lung cancer or of mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the body cavities) from occupational exposures during manufacture of these materials, and inadequate evidence overall of any cancer risk."¹

Specifically, IARC downgraded the classification of these insulation glass fibers from Group 2B (possible carcinogen) to Group 3 (not classifiable as to carcinogenicity in humans). All fiber glass wool fibers that are commonly used for thermal and acoustical insulation are included in the Group 3 classification.²

- In 2000, the **U.S. National Academy of Sciences** also found "no significant association between fiber exposure and lung cancer or nonmalignant respiratory disease in the MVF [Man-made Vitreous Fibers] manufacturing environment."³

In 2004, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry ("ATSDR") released the "Toxicological Profile for Synthetic Vitreous Fibers." The profile is consistent with IARC's findings, reporting that "exposure to SVFs [Synthetic Vitreous Fibers] are low [and] that epidemiological studies showed no consistent evidence of disease among groups of workers involved in the manufacture of SVFs."⁴

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the National Toxicology Program ("NTP") recently announced its intention to review the industry request to remove insulation glass fibers from the official United States list of carcinogens, known as the Report on Carcinogens.⁵ Johns Manville expects final action on this request sometime in 2009.

Johns Manville is determined to protect your safety.

Because of our commitment to our workers, contractors, and product end-users, Johns Manville is at the forefront of providing the latest findings by health agencies and organizations.

Johns Manville was a leading manufacturer participating in the Health and Safety Partnership Program between OSHA and the North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA). Johns Manville is now an active participant in the NAIMA fiber glass product stewardship program. Johns Manville will also continue to monitor the development, manufacture, and use of all its fiber glass products.

¹ http://www.iarc.fr/ENG/Press_Releases/archives/pr137a.html

² International Agency for Research on Cancer, *IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans: Man-Made Vitreous Fibres*, Vol. 81 (Lyon, France: WHO/IARC, 2002). This monograph is available at <http://www.iarc.fr/IARCPress/general/mono.pdf>.

³ Quoted in "Health and Safety Facts for Fiber Glass," 62, Publication Number 40, September 2003,

⁴ www.naima.org.

⁵ *Ibid.* at p. 18.

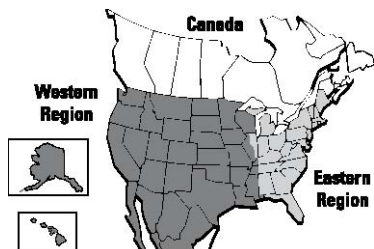
⁵ <http://ntp-server.niehs.nih.gov/index.cfm?objectid=03C9C639-E7CC-CB6A-83088F12A2BA4DBE>

Contact us for additional information.

For further information about fiber glass health research findings, please contact your sales representative or:

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For a more detailed explanation about the safety of Johns Manville fiber glass products, please see "Fiber Glass Hazard Classification and Fiber Glass Health Indemnity Update" (PM-003).



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