

Olin is the Chlor-Alkali Leader: It is Time to End the Use of Asbestos.

- Olin is committed to leading the industry towards a 2-year phase out of installation of new asbestos diaphragms, and we need 5 additional years to maintain existing asbestos cells while we implement new non-asbestos diaphragm (NAD) cells
 - Olin has the largest asbestos diaphragm capacity in the world and in the U.S., and we operate 36 diaphragm chlorine series, each consisting of 72 cells (total 2,592 diaphragms)
 - After the initial 2-year phase out, the cells are not taken apart or dry at any time while in service, but they need to be treated with a wet asbestos slurry to be maintained and operating safely and efficiently while still being used over the five additional years
 - Over the five additional years, Olin will replace approximately 500 diaphragms each year. Failure to maintain asbestos cells during this transition would have a cascading effect on our operation that would shut a significant portion of US chlorine capacity
- We, jointly with others, have the capability to end asbestos use:
 - Olin has terminated asbestos purchasing agreements and we are beginning to operate NAD cells that are maintained with a non-asbestos slurry—but we cannot use a non-asbestos slurry on existing asbestos diaphragms at this time
 - After the 2-year phase out for new diaphragms, our use of asbestos will be dramatically lower and worker exposure will be near zero, as slurry is made in an enclosed process maintained under vacuum with HEPA filtration, and the bags are opened mechanically and emptied into a mix tank
 - There is no handling of dry asbestos for the cell maintenance, it is all wet slurry material
- Our proposed plan and timing for the industry:
 - The “book ends” are terminating all asbestos imports at rule/law enactment, then completely purging all production systems of asbestos seven years after rule/law enactment
 - The majority of asbestos use ends two years after rule/law enactment. In-kind (with asbestos) replacements of a minority of existing asbestos diaphragms are carried out over this two-year period