



## Asbestos Updates - March 2017

### Global Asbestos Awareness Week April 1-7, 2017

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO), which combines education, advocacy, and community to help ensure justice for asbestos victims and work toward an asbestos-free future, is launching the [Global Asbestos Awareness Week \(GAAW\) April 1-7, 2017](#).

Asbestos is a known carcinogen and there is no safe level of exposure. Since the 19th century, asbestos was widely used in construction, shipbuilding, and the automotive industry. Without a ban, asbestos remains legal and lethal in the USA and in an estimated 70% of countries around the world.

Global Asbestos Awareness Week is dedicated to awareness and prevention, with each day featuring educational resources from leading organizations, guest blogs, videos, and asbestos victims' stories. The week culminates on April 7th with an online candlelight vigil.

Building on strength and collaboration, this year's Global Asbestos Awareness Week focuses on:

1. Banning the mining, manufacturing, and use of asbestos
2. Preventing asbestos exposure
3. Increasing compliance and enforcement of existing laws and regulations
4. Strengthening international partnerships

"It is exciting to see the global embrace and collaboration for Global Asbestos Awareness Week," stated ADAO Co-founder and President Linda Reinstein. "Since the awareness campaign began over a decade ago, ADAO, along with our partners, has dedicated over 70 days specifically to asbestos awareness."

Since its founding in 2004, ADAO has worked with the U.S. Senate to unanimously pass twelve Asbestos Awareness Week Resolutions and secured five U.S. Surgeon General asbestos warnings in an effort to prevent exposure to eliminate deadly asbestos-caused diseases.

Exposure to asbestos, a human carcinogen, can cause mesothelioma, lung, gastrointestinal, colorectal, laryngeal, and ovarian cancers; as well as non-malignant lung and pleural disorders. The Global Burden of Disease, Injuries, and Risk Factor Study of 2013 published in the renowned Lancet Medical Journal reported that 194,000 people globally die from asbestos-caused diseases every year, equaling more than 500 deaths per day.

For more information about ADAO, visit [www.asbestodiseaseawareness.org](http://www.asbestodiseaseawareness.org).

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