

Department of
State Development,
Infrastructure and Planning

Queensland Legislative Assembly
Number: 58257/258

17 SEP 2025

Blegger

By Leave 🔲

Clerk's Signature:

By email: (Add email address)

Dear Manager/Director

Notification of asbestos detected in Fire Rated Board used in Fire Doors

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ) is contacting you following a recent notification from the Australian Border Force (ABF) regarding the detection of asbestos-containing Fire Rated Board (FRB). The product was imported into Australia from China by a Victorian company and subsequently on-sold to a Queensland manufacturer.

This correspondence is to provide you with advice about the nature of this risk, legislative duties, and recommended actions.

Information provided to WHSQ by the supplier of your fire door(s), Firemex Pty. Ltd., indicates that between 2023 and 2025 you were supplied with a fire door(s) potentially containing asbestos impacted FRB board. It is important that you are made aware of the potential risk and how best to manage the products you have received.

It is understood that the FRB containing asbestos was utilised in the manufacture of fire doors as an internal component within the steel/wood-encased door. Fire doors made with this product are made from steel and pose an extremely low risk if in good condition and left undisturbed. This is due to the fire rated boards being encapsulated in the steel casing.

Persons with management or control of a workplace (PWMC), such as businesses, contractors or principal contractors have duties under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act). These include ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the workplace and anything arising from the workplace is without risks to the health and safety of any person.

Relevantly, section 420 of the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* (WHS Regulation), requires that businesses ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that exposure of people at the workplace to airborne asbestos is eliminated. If this is not reasonably practicable, the exposure must be minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

To comply with these duties, asbestos at workplaces must be identified and managed in accordance with Part 8.3 'Management of asbestos and associated risks' of the WHS Regulation. This includes ensuring that asbestos at the workplace is identified by a competent person, the location of asbestos is clearly indicated and recorded in a register, and the workplace has a written asbestos management plan if asbestos has been identified at the workplace (or is likely to be present at the workplace from time to time).

Level 12, 100 Skyring Terrace Newstead Qld 4006 Australia PO Box 820 Lutwyche Queensland 4030 Australia **Telephone** 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

WorkSafe 1300 362 128

Website www.worksafe.qld.gov.au www.business.qld,gov.au

ABN 94 496 188 983

Where asbestos is required to be removed, it must be done in accordance with Part 8.7 'Asbestos Removal Work' of the WHS Regulation.

ACTION REQUIRED

If you are a wholesaler who has on-sold the door(s), or if you have previously installed the door(s) as part of a completed job, please forward this correspondence to the end receiver of the door(s) for their awareness and action.

Additionally, if the door(s) were installed in a workplace, please provide the details of that workplace, including an email contact address to asbestoscompliance@oir.qld.gov.au

Please refer to the **attached step-by-step guide** for more information on what steps you need to take to ensure compliance with WHS legislation. Further advice on managing and removing asbestos can be found within the Queensland <u>Code of Practice: How to safely remove</u> asbestos 2021, and <u>Code of Practice: How to management and control asbestos 2021.</u>

I trust the above information is of assistance. If you require additional advice, you may wish to contact Workplace Health and Safety Queensland on 1300 362 128 or via the website at www.worksafe.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Sarina Wise Executive Director Compliance & Field Services Workplace Health and Safety Queensland 11/09/2025