

James Hardie & Asbestos Disease Related Compensation: Frequently Asked Questions

What is James Hardie's history in relation to making products that contained asbestos?

- Up to 1987, James Hardie was involved in the manufacture and distribution of a variety of products containing asbestos, including building products, pipes, brake linings and installation products.
- In 1981, James Hardie pioneered the manufacture of the world's first asbestos free fibre cement products.
- James Hardie ceased using asbestos in its building products in 1985 and in its pipes business in 1987. Since then, James Hardie products have been and continue to be asbestos-free.
- According to a 2006 study by KPMG Actuaries of the total liabilities for Australian asbestos related personal injury claims, the former James Hardie companies were liable for less than 20%, as estimated at that time.

How is James Hardie contributing to asbestos disease related compensation?

- James Hardie contributes up to 35% of its annual Free Cash Flow to the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (**the AICF**), in accordance with the Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement (**AFFA**). This commitment extends to at least 2045, with recurring automatic ten year extension periods, if required.
- James Hardie believes that the AFFA is an agreement that appropriately balances the needs of all stakeholders, including present and future asbestos compensation claimants, while also delivering certainty to shareholders and lenders, thereby enabling James Hardie to grow and continue to contribute to the long term funding of claims.
- The AICF was created in February 2007 as an independent, special purpose vehicle to provide compensation for Australian asbestos disease related claims against former subsidiaries of the James Hardie Group.
- In 2001, James Hardie established the Medical Research and Compensation Foundation (a forerunner of the AICF) with assets of A\$293 million.
- Between 2007 and 2014, James Hardie contributed A\$721.4 million to the AICF.
- Collectively James Hardie has provided A\$1 billion towards asbestos disease related compensation, medical research and education since 2001.
- No proven compensation claim against James Hardie (or its former subsidiaries) has gone unpaid.

What is James Hardie doing to support asbestos education and awareness, and medical research?

- In 2007, A\$3 million of assets remaining in the Medical Research and Compensation Foundation was transferred to the Asbestos Diseases Research Foundation, to establish the Asbestos Diseases Research Centre, based at Concord Hospital.
- James Hardie also financially contributes to medical research into the prevention, treatment and cure of asbestos related diseases and has more recently provided additional amounts to support clinical trials to develop a new treatment for mesothelioma.
- James Hardie is the primary supporter (and only commercial supporter) of Australia's largest education campaign regarding the dangers of asbestos. The education campaign is run by a committee with representatives from the NSW government, the ACTU and James Hardie.
- The education campaign is aimed at educating home renovators about the risk of asbestos in the built environment. An example of the committee's work is the website www.asbestosawareness.com.au

How do I find out if products I think may have been made by James Hardie contain asbestos?

- If you have questions regarding whether products you believe were made or sold by James Hardie contain asbestos, please contact our customer service team on 13 11 03. They will be able to provide you with specific product guidance.

What should I do if I believe I may have an asbestos related disease?

- As a first step, you should consult your doctor or medical professional for diagnosis and advice, as soon as practicable.
- For information about asbestos related diseases and for support, please go to the Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia (ADFA) website: <http://www.adfa.org.au/> ADFA is a not-for profit organisation working to provide support to people living with asbestos related diseases, family members, carers and friends.

Where do I go to find out more about asbestos?

- **Asbestos Awareness** www.asbestosawareness.com.au – provides information on a state by state basis about the dangers of asbestos, asbestos removal, who to contact and other important information.