Safety and security at work: protection from the risks related to exposure to asbestos (amend. Directive 83/477/EEC)

2001/0165(COD) - 16/05/2002 - Modified legislative proposal

Out of the 37 amendments submitted by the European Parliament, the Commission accepted in full 9, and partially 3. It rejected 25 amendments. Amongst those accepted were the following: -prevention of asbestos release outside the workplace as well as inside; -provisions requiring more detailed information about asbestos risks as well as those adding medical examination frequency and health assessment information requirements; -information to be provided about the undertaking and the worker contracted to carry out activities involving asbestos; -appropriate breaks during the use of individual respiratory protective equipment; -the use of alternative measuring methods for the fibre counting of asbestos; -the addition of local authorities, civil protection services, and other authorities, bodies or individuals to the owners in order to provide information to identify presumed asbestos-containing materials. Amongst the amendments rejected was the expression of limit values as a time weighted average in a period of 4 hours instead of 8 hours. This was rejected because it would create confusion when compared to the same values in international standards which use a reference period of 8 hours.