

Chapter 32: [Polychlorinated Biphenyls](#)

Quick Start Summary

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URL: <https://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/eshmanual/references/pcbQuickstart.pdf>

1 Who needs to know about these requirements

The requirements of Polychlorinated Biphenyls apply to workers, supervisors, equipment owners, and Waste Management.

2 Why

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are considered a hazardous material/waste and are known to cause chronic reproductive effects, gastric disorders, and skin lesions in laboratory animals, and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified PCBs as probable human carcinogens.

3 What do I need to know

PCBs are most commonly found in electrical equipment such as transformers, klystrons, capacitors, and fluorescent light ballasts manufactured before 1979. PCBs are a diminishing hazard at SLAC because PCB-containing equipment is maintained in a manner that reduces PCB contamination, and in many cases such equipment has been replaced.

Equipment and items potentially containing or contaminated with PCBs must be labelled, inspected, decommissioned, and disposed of in accordance with the requirements described in this chapter. Workers must use proper personal protective equipment (PPE) when handling PCB-contaminated equipment and items.

4 When

These requirements take effect 9 December 2019.

5 Where do I find more information

[SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual](#) (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001)

- [Chapter 32, “Polychlorinated Biphenyls”](#)

Or contact the [program manager](#).