

PROFICIENCY MODULE SYLLABUS REFRESHER COURSE

P406R - Supervision and Management of the Safe Removal and Disposal of Asbestos

Aim: This course is designed to meet the annual refresher training needs of Supervisory Licence Holders who have already achieved either a pass in Proficiency Module P406 or hold the Certificate of Competence in Asbestos.

Technical Content: The time allocation and emphasis of each element will require Training Need Assessment of the candidates before deciding on the balance of the one day refresher course. The technical contents for the refresher will be selected from the following:-

Content	Topic	Time Allocation
	1 Asbestos Types and Health Effects	10%
	2 Legislation	10%
	3 Removal of Asbestos	30%
	4 PPE, RPE and Decontamination Procedures	30%
	5 Accident and Emergency Procedures	20%

Note: Reference is made in this syllabus to HSE guidance or other documentation. This may not be the most up-to-date relevant publications from HSE/other sources and is intended as guidance for candidates only.

1 Asbestos Types and Health Effects

1.1 Asbestos Forms and Uses

Ensure that candidates understand the six regulated forms of asbestos in relation to the serpentine and amphibole groups of minerals, their chemical properties and uses. Revise the wide range of the use of Asbestos products across the full range of applications in both the industrial and domestic situations. Consider also the peripheral effects of asbestos product usage. [e.g overspray etc.]

1.2 Health Effects of Asbestos

Revise the full range of health effects ranging from the benign (pleural plaques) to the terminal (mesothelioma) in the light of results from epidemiological studies carried out on asbestos workers.

1.3 Control Limits etc for Asbestos

Review exposure limits, and the clearance indicator threshold for asbestos together with the philosophy behind setting them (1).

2 Legislation

2.1 Health and Safety at Work Etc Act 1974

Revise the principles of the enabling legislation.

2.2 Asbestos Regulations [CAR 2006 and its ACOP et al]

Revise all the relevant current Regulations on asbestos which may include any or all of the following:

- Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 especially the changes that this legislation makes to working with asbestos

- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)
- Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005
- Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995
- Maintenance and testing of enclosures and the need for control other than RPE.

3 Removal of Asbestos

3.1 Preparation and Planning

Revise the steps required in a job specification, preparation of a plan of work by the contractor, tender evaluation and the various roles required under the CDM Regulations for management of the site. Revise the detailed planning of methods of work and their control strategy. This may include as relevant other health and safety aspects.

3.2 Enclosures

With reference to HSE Guidance HSG 247 and Approved Codes of Practice (1), revise with relevant practical examples the following:

- Site set up including pre-cleaning and air testing
- Design principles of an enclosure for asbestos removal, including air lock systems
- Methods of enclosure examination both Pre & Post removal, and relevant documentation
- Correct procedures for entry, exit and decontamination along with the requirements for transit routes
- The use of negative pressure monitors
- Use of secondary enclosures.

3.3 Removal Procedures

Revise the various control measures available for a removal of asbestos to ensure that asbestos dust levels are kept as low as is reasonably practicable inside the enclosure (1) (9). Consider a wide range of applications and also point out the dangers of common short cuts that might be considered.

3.4 Four Stage Clearance Procedure and Testing of Enclosures

Revise all of the requirements of four stage clearance procedure, clearance testing and re-occupation certification for an asbestos enclosure and the decontamination unit (1) (7) (8).

4 PPE, RPE and Decontamination Procedures

Revise the selection of PPE/RPE for all elements of the working environment including removal work, transit routes and waste handling. Explore the reasoning behind colour segregation for individual processes.

Revise how to ensure the RPE is suitable for the user; how to fit RPE on site including face fit testing; how to check faulty RPE and what to do if a fault is found; the components of each type of RPE; certification and documentation; suitable storage; requirements of daily and monthly inspections.

5 Accidents and Emergency Procedures

Revise the procedures required to cover all foreseeable emergencies whilst the removal processes are being undertaken including enclosure and/or ventilation failure. Special emphasis should be placed on the requirements to check and ensure equipment is properly maintained along with proper record keeping. Revise the techniques for snagging and spotting potential problems, inspection and auditing, keeping full records.

References

- (1) HSE Control of Asbestos Regulations and Approved Code of Practice (2006)
- (2) HSE Guidance HSG 264 (2010) Asbestos: The survey guide
- (3) Asbestos and Man Made Mineral Fibres in Buildings, Practical Guidance. Thomas Telford DETR (1999)
- (4) HSE Guidance INDG 223 (2001) Managing Asbestos in Workplace Premises
- (5) HSC ACOP and Guidance HSG 224 (2001) Managing Health and Safety in Construction. Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007
- (6) HSE Guidance Note HSG 213 (2001) Introduction to Asbestos Essentials
- (7) ISO 17025 (2005) General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories
- (8) HSE Guidance HSG248 Asbestos The Analysts Guide for sampling analysis and clearance procedures
- (9) HSE Guidance HSG 247 The Licensed Contractors Guide

Course Length

It is specified that a day's training means **at least 6 hours** not including breaks according to HSG247. This course for supervisory licence holders is designated as a 1-day course.

Tutor to Candidate Ratios

The HSL report recognised that there was a need for a high tutor to delegate ratio for practical hands on training, such as use of decontamination procedures. As a result, the following maximum ratios have been agreed for Refresher courses - 1 tutor - 15 delegates.

Course Examination/Assessment

25 short answer questions to be answered in 75 minutes.