

## P402 - Surveying and Sampling Strategies for Asbestos in Buildings

### Practical Assessment Guidance

This document provides advice and guidance with regards to the practical assessment which must be carried out during the P402 course.

#### 1. Introduction and Overview:

Candidates taking the P402 – Surveying and Sampling Strategies for Asbestos in Buildings module are required to have the requisite practical skills to take bulk samples of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) safely.

This is an essential part of carrying out an asbestos building survey.

The practical assessment **MUST** be carried out by the Tutor **DURING** the relevant part of the course for all candidates. This is to ensure that every candidate can demonstrate their individual ability and correct method to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of health and safety issues involved in surveying and bulk sampling of asbestos-containing materials
2. Demonstrate skills used in taking samples of different types of asbestos-containing materials commonly used in buildings. (NB: materials that actually contain asbestos are not used in this assessment)

Candidates are permitted access to written reference materials and written procedures during these tasks.

Candidates are required to complete each aspect of the assessment before proceeding to taking the written examinations. The tutor should provide coaching to the candidate, at the required level, to ensure they are capable of demonstrating the correct ability and methods outlined above.

#### 2. The Practical Requirements:

Candidates must demonstrate their capability to take samples from at least two different types of material using safe working methods. This means that candidates must complete two tasks, and each task has two parts.

One type of material must be pipe insulation and training providers are permitted to select the second type of material from the BOHS approved list.

The materials used for the assessment must not actually contain asbestos but should possess the physical properties and general appearance of ACMs.

The practical use of all tools used to sample should be included in the assessment. Since the materials being sampled do not contain asbestos, the actual use of respiratory protection (RPE) is not required but candidates must be able to select RPE that is appropriate for the sampling task and discuss its use.

**Task 1 - Sampling Pipe Insulation:**

Candidates are required to:

<p><b>Part 1</b></p> <p>Take a sample of pipe insulation demonstrating safe working methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of injection with surfactant</li> <li>• Use of core sampler</li> <li>• Use of wet wipes</li> <li>• Making core hole safe after sampling</li> <li>• Retrieval of sample from corer</li> <li>• Cleaning and decontamination of corer</li> <li>• Safe disposal of wet wipes</li> <li>• Use of polythene floor covering</li> </ul>	<p><b>Part 2</b></p> <p>Understand safety issues related to the sampling of pipe insulation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection and use of PPE and RPE</li> <li>• Use of core sampler</li> <li>• Safe removal and decontamination</li> </ul>
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**Task 2 – Sampling Other Material:**

Candidates are required to:

<p><b>Part 1</b></p> <p>Take a sample from one of the following materials demonstrating safe working methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Insulating board/ceiling tiles:</b> selection of suitable sampling point, use of water/surfactant sprays, sampling with sharp knife or chisel, sealing of exposed surface, cleaning up debris, use of polythene floor covering</li> <li>• <b>Floor tiles:</b> selection of suitable sampling point, sampling with a sharp knife, sealing of exposed surface, cleaning up debris</li> <li>• <b>Asbestos cement:</b> selection of suitable sampling point, use of water/surfactant sprays, sampling with pliers or screwdriver blade, sealing of exposed surface, use of polythene floor covering, cleaning up debris. Making core hole safe after sampling</li> </ul>	<p><b>Part 2</b></p> <p>Understand safety issues related to the material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection and use of PPE and RPE appropriate for bulk sampling</li> <li>• Safe removal and decontamination</li> </ul>
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### 3. Marking and Reporting:

The course tutor who assesses the candidate must complete a Practical Assessment Report Form for each candidate, provided as a separate document.

The Report must clearly show if each candidate has achieved a satisfactory or unsatisfactory level of proficiency for each assessment element.

Candidates are required to achieve a satisfactory level of proficiency for each element to complete the assessment.

A copy of the Report must be supplied to BOHS on completion of the course. A copy may also be given to the candidate.

### 4. Results:

The results for each candidate must be sent electronically to BOHS upon completion of the course.

It is acceptable to scan and email the completed documents to BOHS and return as one set per course. The reports are necessary to confirm the candidate's suitability to proceed to take the formal examinations.

### 5. Quality Assurance:

The practical assessment is a mandatory part of the assessment and examination process for P402 and is subject to BOHS external quality assurance arrangements, to ensure compliance with requirements and to promote consistency and continuing improvement.

#### Assessment Elements:

##### 1 Practical Sampling:

Tutors should refer to the following checklists to help decide if candidates have demonstrated the required level of proficiency when taking samples from different materials. The checklists are provided for guidance and are not intended as an exhaustive list:

#### Sampling Pipe Insulation:

Secure area and signage
Catch sheet underneath

Sample bags (inner, outer) prepared labelled
Secure surface around sampling point (duct tape)
Wet down with spray and/or injection
Shadow vacuum
Corer prepared with wipe inside and around corer
Take core sample full depth of insulation – i.e. down to pipe
Sample pushed into bag with internal wipe
Bag sealed and double wrapped
Sample hole filled and labelled
Photograph
Corer cleaned off
Sheet wiped over
All cleaning wipes into waste bag
Sampling frequency on pipes (verbal)
Sampling frequency with bends (verbal)

**Sampling Ceiling Tiles:**

Sample bag prepared labelled
Outer sample bag prepared and labelled
Wet down with spray
Pliers wiped down
How to deal with serrated pliers (verbal)
Sample into bag
Bag sealed and double wrapped

Sample area sealed over
Sample area labelled
Photograph
Area wiped over
All cleaning wipes into waste bag
Sampling frequency of ceiling tiles (verbal)

**Sampling Floor Tiles:**

Sample bag prepared labelled
Outer sample bag prepared and labelled
Wet down with spray
Stanley knife wiped down
Sample cut
Sample into bag
Bag sealed and double wrapped
Sample hole sealed over
Sample hole labelled
Photograph
Knife cleaned off
Area wiped over
All cleaning wipes into waste bag
Sampling frequency on floor tiles (verbal)

**Sampling Asbestos Cement:**

Sample bag prepared labelled
Outer sample bag prepared and labelled
Wet down with spray
Choose corner section or damaged area to sample
Use pliers or screwdriver blade
Sample into bag
Bag sealed and double wrapped
Sample area sealed over
Sample area labelled
Photograph
Area wiped over
All cleaning wipes into waste bag
Sampling frequency for asbestos cement (verbal)

**2 Safety Issues:**

Tutors should refer to the following checklist to help decide if candidates have understood, in discussion, the safety issues associated with taking samples.

The checklist is provided for guidance and is not intended as an exhaustive list:

**Safety Issues:**

Overall type of PPE to be used
Respiratory protective equipment requirement (type and performance)
How gloves are taken off
How overalls are taken off
What happens to gloves and overalls after removal

When RPE is taken off
How RPE is taken off
How RPE is cleaned
Limitations of RPE (facial hair etc.)
What actions should be taken in case of personal contamination
Use of facilities of decontamination unit
Fully appreciate the safety requirements of surveying