

## **P404 - Clearance Testing and the Requirements of a Certificate for Reoccupation**

### **Written Examination Guidance**

It is important that candidates prepare thoroughly for all exams, as poor exam technique can result in lost Marks.

The following advice is applicable to all candidates and should be contained in the examination briefing:

- ✓ Read questions carefully before answering, and only then answer the question.
- ✓ Look for key words in the exam question, such as 'How...', 'Why...' etc.
- ✓ Look for indicators of how many answers to write (for example, 'List TWO options that...' tells you to write two answers only).
- ✓ This is a short-answer examination – candidates may write short sentences or list points in their answers.
- ✓ The number of Marks available for each answer is shown. This will help to assist in determining how much to write. For example, a question worth one or two Marks will require just one or two sentences or bullet points, however one worth 10 Marks will require a more comprehensive answer.
- ✓ Avoid getting bogged down unnecessarily in earlier questions. Give priority to questions that can be readily answered before tackling more challenging ones.
- ✓ Exam papers are structured to follow the sections of the syllabus, so candidates can easily find all questions relating to each sub-section.
- ✓ It is recommended that candidates take a couple of minutes to skim through the exam paper before they start answering the questions. They can then answer the questions they find easiest first, which will help them to accumulate Marks and hopefully give them confidence to tackle more challenging questions.
- ✓ Many questions are short answer questions based on diagrams, real-life scenarios, or photographs. They test whether the candidate can apply what they've learnt during the course and the practical sessions.

### **Sample Examination Questions**

The questions are worth a variety of Marks, from 1 Mark up to 10 Marks. Questions are based on real-life scenarios and include the use of photographs, diagrams and tables. Each question is based on a specific syllabus item, examples of which are shown below:

**Question 1** You are on site as an asbestos analyst during a licensed asbestos removal project. If there is a power failure whilst enclosure works are in progress, what actions should the LARC take? **(4 Marks)**

**ANSWER (Max 4 Marks):**

- Seal the enclosure after personnel have vacated the area **(1 Mark)**
- Start emergency procedure process **(1 Mark)**
- If back up power does not work then operatives will need to decontaminate **(1 Mark)**
- And await the power to be restored before continuing **(1 Mark)**

**Question 2** During the stage one inspection of the clearance procedure, you see the image below. What are your concerns and what would you request the contractor to do? **(4 Marks)**



**ANSWER (Max 4 Marks):**

- Wrapped unlabelled waste adjacent to (not placed inside) skip **(2 Marks)**
- Request that the contractor removes this waste **(1 Mark)**
- Place appropriate labels / wrapping if this is asbestos waste **(1 Mark)**
- Place waste within suitable waste storage container **(1 Mark)**

**Question 3** The extract below is taken from the 'Description of Work' section of a licensed contractors Plan of Work. The project is to remove asbestos from the boiler room of a betting shop. List **SEVEN** deficiencies or omissions that you can identify. **(7 Marks)**

*Section 4. Description of Work*

*'To form a fully sealed and controlled working enclosure for the purpose of removing all contaminated waste from the area. All waste will be bagged and placed into a skip. To strip down the old boiler unit, wrap in polythene sheeting and place into a skip.*

*All asbestos insulated pipework will be sprayed down and then removed using the wrap and cut method of removal and placed into the skip.*

*All walls to be thoroughly brushed down, vacuumed and completely decontaminated.*

*All walls and ceilings to be encapsulated using ET150 encapsulation paint.*

*An independent laboratory technician will then be asked to make a visual inspection of the work area and to carry out background air sampling'.*

**ANSWER (Max 7 Marks):**

- Lockable / sealed skip should be mentioned **(1 Mark)**
- Pipework insulation should be wet-injected not sprayed **(1 Mark)**
- Brushes should not be used **(1 Mark)**
- No sealing of the walls before analyst's inspection **(1 Mark)**
- Not background but clearance testing required **(1 Mark)**
- Should mention that independent analyst will issue a certificate of re-inspection **(1 Mark)**
- Safety considerations / risk assessments not mentioned **(1 Mark)**
- Other relevant safety issues up to **(2 Marks)**

**Question 4** What photographs should be taken and included within the certificate or reoccupation as part of stage 3? **(5 Marks)**

**ANSWER (Max 5 Marks):**

- Areas are dry **(1 Mark)**
- Photographs to cover the relevant locations **(1 Mark)**
- The NPUs are sealed **(1 Mark)**
- The sampling pumps in each location **(1 Mark)**
- The brush used for disturbance **(1 Mark)**

**Question 5** What is the minimum air volume to be collected when completing an air clearance test? **(2 Marks)**

**ANSWER:**

480 litres **(2 Marks)**