

International Module

M504 - Asbestos and other Fibres

Formative Practical Assessment – Guidance for Tutors

1. Introduction

In order to ensure that candidates, on completion of this module, have the capability to carry out basic practical assignments, all candidates must undertake two practical exercises and write them up to the standard of laboratory notebooks or as field notes for marking by the course tutor during the course. These formative practical exercises are an essential part of the examination process and will be subject to random audit for quality assurance purposes.

2. The Practical Requirements

The practical exercises should be designed by the course tutor(s) to test the basic skill of the candidate. They must cover the sampling of air for respirable fibres and subsequent slide preparation, and sampling from bulk materials as in a buildings survey.

The exercises must, therefore, involve both of the following:

- Set up and use of an air sampling system for asbestos fibres in air with suitable high-volume pump, flexible tubing, filter holder and filter media, and the subsequent preparation of slides for counting.
- Sampling of bulk material for asbestos identification including all the required safety precautions. [*Surrogate materials to be used*]

Access to reference material and written procedures is allowed during these exercises.

3. Reporting and Marking

The formative studies will need to be written up to the standards expected for a laboratory notebook or field notes and handed in for assessment at the end of the practical exercise. The candidates must include all readings and calculations, where relevant, so that they can be checked.

Each practical exercise notes should contain the following elements:

- a) Location and date
- b) A brief description of the process
- c) Equipment used
- d) Results with calculation where relevant
- e) Name of candidate

The laboratory notebook or field notes reports must be handed in at the completion of the practical session and retrospective reporting will not be allowed. The course provider/tutor will assess each practical notebook report and compile a report per candidate as per the attached form.

The tutor must return the practical evaluation report for each candidate to BOHS within 5 days of the course completion.

Note: Non asbestos containing surrogate materials must be used for the bulk sampling exercise.

4. Benchmark Marking Schedule

As the tutor is responsible for designing suitable studies it is not practicable to provide a fully detailed predefined marking schedule. However, the following are examples of what the tutor needs to look for in each case and are provided for guidance.

- a) Set up and use of an air sampling system for asbestos fibres in air with suitable high-volume pump and the subsequent preparation of slides for counting.

Visual Check

- Set up of sampling train including filter holder correctly positioned
- Calibration of flow
- Timing of sampling run
- Hands-free handling of filter media
- Preparation of microscope slide from filter

Marking and Write Up

- Calculation of volume satisfactory
 - Recording of relevant sampling parameters satisfactory
- b) Sampling of bulk material for asbestos identification of preferably two differing types including all the required safety precautions. [*Surrogate materials to be used*]

Safety Issues

The discussion with the candidate during the sampling exercise will establish the overall awareness of the candidate to safety issues and thus the practical assessor will be able to correct any errors and mark the following specific points. The check lists below are only provided as guidance and tutors may use their own if they prefer.

Safety Issues [Verbal questions]
Overall type of PPE to be used
Respiratory protective equipment requirement [type and performance]
How are gloves taken off?
How are overalls taken off?
What happens to gloves and overalls after removal?
When is RPE taken off?
Describe how RPE is taken off
How is RPE cleaned?
Limitations of RPE (facial hair etc.)
If personally contaminated, what actions should be taken?
Use of facilities of decontamination unit
Does candidate fully appreciate the safety requirements of surveying?

At least one, preferably two sampling exercises must be conducted, and the check list will vary depending on the media sampled. The points below are not intended as a complete list of all actions but will give a good indication of competence.

Sampling Lagging
Secure area+ signage
Catch sheet underneath
Sample bag prepared labelled
Outer sample bag prepared and labelled
Secure surface [duct tape]
Wet down with spray
Shadow vac
Corer prepared wipe inside
Wipe around corer
Take core sample down to pipe
Sample pushed into bag with internal wipe
Bag sealed and double wrapped
Sample hole filled
Sample hole 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 Floor Tile
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 Ceiling Tiles
Sample bag prepared labelled
Outer sample bag prepared and labelled
Wet down with spray
Pliers wiped down
How 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 Surface Treatment
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]

Results to be reported to BOHS by tutor on report sheet on individual candidate basis.

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M504 - Asbestos and other Fibres Formative

Practical Evaluation — Report

Name of Candidate			
Date of Birth		Date of Evaluation	
Evaluation Location			
Course Provider			
	Pass/Fail	Comments	
Set up and use of an air sampling system for asbestos fibres in air with suitable high-volume pump and the subsequent preparation of slides for counting			
Sampling of bulk material for asbestos identification including all the required safety precautions [<i>Surrogate materials to be used</i>]			
Overall Decision			
<i>Name of tutor covering practical evaluation</i>			
<i>Signature of tutor covering practical evaluation</i>			

Please Note: Information entered into the comments column can be given to the candidate for re-sit purposes.

International Module

M504 - Asbestos and other Fibres

Formative Practical Assessment – Guidance for Candidates

1. Introduction

Candidates taking the M504 international examination in “Asbestos and other Fibres” are required to demonstrate that they have appropriate practical skills. Therefore, all candidates must undertake the two formative practical exercises and write these up to the standards appropriate to a laboratory notebook or field notes for marking by the course tutor during the course. This will be regarded as an essential part of the examination process.

2. The Practical Requirements and Reporting

The practical exercises are designed to test the basic skill of the candidate on an individual basis.

- Set up and use of an air sampling system for asbestos fibres in air with suitable high- volume pump and the subsequent preparation of slides for counting
- Sampling of bulk material for asbestos identification including all the required safety precautions [*Surrogate materials to be used*]

Access to reference material and written procedures is allowed during these exercises. For each exercise the candidate should:

- a) Select the appropriate equipment for the relevant task
- b) Correctly assemble and use the equipment
- c) Submit a written practical report for the exercise where relevant

The study will need to be written up to the standards expected for a laboratory/field notebook and handed in for assessment at the end of the practical exercise. The candidates must include all readings and calculations so that they can be checked where relevant.

Each practical notebook/field report should contain the following elements:

- a) Location and date
- b) A brief description of the process
- c) Equipment used
- d) Results with calculation where relevant
- e) Name of candidate

The notebook or field reports must be handed in at the completion of the practical session as retrospective reporting will not be allowed. The course provider/tutor will assess each practical notebook report and return the practical evaluation report for each candidate to BOHS.

Non asbestos containing surrogate materials must be used for the bulk sampling exercise.