

M504 Asbestos and Other Fibres – Answers to revision questions

Section 6 – Asbestos removal

1. What responsibilities do the client / building owner have for asbestos removal work undertaken on site? (Pages 95 – 98 and 102)
 - Provide relevant information to removal contractor
 - Critically assess the removal contractor's competence and plan of work
 - Some jurisdictions require notification of work
 - Undertake audits of asbestos removal contractor
 - Competent person checking that work plan is being implemented
 - Ensure concurrent operations that may affect contractor are properly communicated and planned for

2. What is a plan of work and what issues should it address? (Pages 98 – 103)
 - Practical document that documents how work is to be undertaken
 - Active document
 - Issues included – see table page 101

3. What features would you expect to see in a temporary enclosure built for the removal of asbestos insulation from a boiler house? (Pages 103 – 111)
 - Physical barrier to prevent dust / fibres from escaping
 - Entrance / exit airlocks
 - Suitable size
 - Signs / notices / other barriers?
 - Air mover / negative pressure air extractor
 - Viewing panels

4. What is a transiting procedure for exiting an asbestos work area? How is it undertaken? (Pages 112 – 114)
 - Preliminary decontamination when hygiene unit not directly attached to the enclosure
 - Worker undertakes initial clean, removes work overalls, puts on new transit overalls, keeps respirator on
 - Exit airlocks, walks to main decontamination unit
 - Full details in notes

5. What techniques are available for removal of asbestos containing materials? For each technique identify the benefits and limitations. Also give an example of where the technique would be applicable. (Pages 116 – 125)
 - Wetting by injection – potentially very effective, needs correct positioning of needles, long wetting time – pipe / boiler insulation
 - Wetting by spraying – quicker, should use surfactant, minimise water run-off – thin porous coating (rope, asbestos insulation board)

- Dry removal – no real advantages, can be used near live electrical conductors
 - Glove bag – easily prepared mini enclosure, limited size of work – section of external pipework
 - Hot stripping – don't do it!
6. How should asbestos waste be removed and disposed? (Pages 125 – 127)
- Double bagged / wrapped, via designated waste routes to secure container /skip
7. How can the integrity of an enclosure be tested, monitored and maintained?
(Pages 127 – 130)
- Visual inspection prior to start of work
 - Smoke testing
 - Differential pressure monitors
 - Checks / inspections during work
 - Air monitoring outside enclosure (leak monitoring)
 - Air extraction units left running continuously