

## **M504 Asbestos and Other Fibres – Answers to revision questions**

### **Section 5 – Asbestos in buildings and surveys**

1. What types of products and applications has asbestos been used for in buildings?  
(Pages 47, 48 and Appendix)
  - See list
2. For the main types of asbestos products what is the typical asbestos content?  
(Pages 47, 48 and Appendix)
  - Thermal insulation – 6 to 85%
  - Asbestos insulation board – 15 to 40%
  - Asbestos cement products – 5 to 15%
  - Ropes, textiles, gaskets – up to 100%
3. What factors can influence the quality of an asbestos survey and what systems are available to help assure the quality of an asbestos survey?  
(Pages 54 and 55)
  - Suitably qualified and trained staff
  - Accreditation to recognised standard (ISO 17020 – UKAS, NATA etc)
4. What are the main types of asbestos survey? What are the differences between them?  
(Pages 55 – 60)
  - Management survey (in UK termed Type 1 or Type 2, in US termed baseline)
    - Limit to how intrusive the survey is
    - Areas not inspected / accessed recorded and presumed to contain asbestos
    - Risk assessment of condition and likelihood of disturbance of ACM
    - Provide information to enable safe management of ACM (which may include removal)
  - Refurbishment and pre-demolition surveys (in UK termed Type 3, in US termed Project Design)
    - Should access all ACM – therefore very intrusive / destructive
    - Provide information on to enable specification for removal work
5. What factors need to be considered when planning an asbestos survey of a building?  
(Pages 60 – 61)
  - Desk-top review – possible types, locations of ACMs, age of buildings etc
  - Clear understanding of asbestos survey types / options and their limitations
  - Extent and parameters of survey agreed
  - Clear and unambiguous brief – areas / buildings, type of survey, areas to be accessed / not accessed, what areas reasonably accessible, sampling protocol, risk assessment system, report format etc
6. What information should be recorded during an asbestos survey?  
(Pages 63 – 71)
  - Where? - Unambiguous location of ACM
  - How much? – Extent of ACM
  - What? – Product type (and asbestos type)

and for management surveys

- Accessibility – how easily disturbed
- Condition – level of damage / deterioration, sealed / unsealed

Also sample points recorded, photographs

7. Describe the procedures that should be used when sampling the following types of asbestos containing materials. (Pages 73 – 76)
  - a. Pipe insulation - coring tool, pre-wetting, shadow vacuum, repair / seal
  - b. Insulating board - pliers / chisel, pre-wetting, shadow vacuum? seal
  - c. Asbestos cement roof sheeting – pliers / chisel, pre-wetting, seal
8. What factors are taken into account in the risk assessment algorithms commonly used in the United Kingdom? (Pages 81 – 85)
  - Material assessment – product type, condition, surface treatment, asbestos type
  - Priority assessment – occupant activity, likelihood of disturbance, exposure potential, maintenance activities
9. What factors are taken into account in the risk assessment methodology commonly used in the United States of America? (Pages 85 – 86)
  - Condition of material – evidence of deterioration, evidence of physical damage, evidence of water damage
  - Potential for future disturbance, damage or erosion – proximity to air stream, visibility, accessibility and degree of activity, change in building use
10. What principles should be applied when developing an asbestos management plan? (Pages 86 – 90)
  - Ultimate aim – asbestos free workplaces
    - May not be possible in short-term, priority given to friable materials, opportunities to remove asbestos identified
  - Information recorded in asbestos register
    - Information available, labels
  - Risk assessments of material and potential for disturbance
  - Consultation and involvement of all
  - Undertaken by competent persons
11. What information should be included in an asbestos management plan? (Pages 90 – 93)
  - Asbestos register
  - Mechanisms for provision of information
  - Decisions on management options
  - Timetable, priorities, dates
  - Arrangement for regular inspections / monitoring
  - Responsibilities
  - Training arrangements
  - Details of regular reviews