

Asbestos Glossary

ACM – Asbestos Containing Material. This can be a product with anything from 99% asbestos concentration to less than 1% and is used to refer to the vastly different types of such material.

ACOP – Approved Code of Practice, a document giving practical guidance on compliance. ACOP L143, 'Managing and working with asbestos', specifically relates to the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012.

AIB – Asbestos Insulating Board. Used primarily for fire protection, thermal insulation, partitioning and ducts (plenums).

Airborne Fibre Count Certificates – Issued following airborne monitoring for a variety of purposes such as reassurance testing, asbestos work leak testing and personal testing. See also Certificate of Reoccupation.

Amosite – Technical name for 'brown' asbestos.

Asbestos Cement – A hard product that contains approx. 15% asbestos fibres which can be any of the three main types. Examples of common applications are roof sheets, wall cladding and rain water goods etc. This is a relatively low risk material provided it remains intact.

Asbestos Register – A schedule of all identified items containing or presumed to contain asbestos, including location / condition, and areas that were not accessible during the survey. The Asbestos Register should be consulted for all work which may disturb the fabric of the building, or involve the building services. Such work includes simple & short duration work such as drilling a single hole or attaching items to walls.

Asbestos Regulations – Regulations made under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 which control management of and work with ACMs, their removal and disposal together with the responsibilities of employers, managers, employees, contractors, visitors and designers.

Asbestos Waste – Waste containing asbestos is normally deemed as being hazardous waste and stringent regulations apply for carriage on the highways and its disposal. Enforced by the Environmental Agency.

Bulk Sample – A sample of material such as boarding, insulation or debris taken by an accredited surveyor to be tested for asbestos fibre content / type by an accredited laboratory.

CAR2012 – The Control of Asbestos Regulations, enacted in 2012.

Certificate of Reoccupation – Issued after asbestos work, following a satisfactory inspection and testing procedure and prior to normal reoccupation being resumed. Has statutory significance and can only be issued by a UKAS accredited organisation.

Chrysotile – Technical name for 'white' asbestos.

Control Measure – Something that will reduce the risk posed by a hazard.

Crocidolite – Technical name for 'blue' asbestos.

Dutyholder – a person holding or sharing asbestos management responsibilities when they have some form of responsibility or control over 'maintenance' activities within University buildings, as defined within the current Approved Code of Practice.

Estate Management – A division of the Unified Administrative Service that has principal roles in asbestos management within University controlled buildings in conjunction with the Health and Safety Office.

Hazard – Anything that may cause harm, such as chemicals, electricity, working from ladders, an open drawer, etc.

Health and Safety Office – A section of the Unified Administrative Service that works in conjunction with Estate Management on management policy.

HSE – Health and Safety Executive. The enforcement of Health and Safety is principally split between two authorities – the Health and Safety Executive cover more specialist areas e.g. universities, and normally those buildings not accessible to the general public. Local authorities cover the more small to medium sized service and retail businesses e.g. hotels, shops and offices.

HSG264 Asbestos: The Survey Guide – This is guidance issued by the HSE to ensure proper practice and conformity in the surveying and reporting of ACMs.

L143 Managing and Working with Asbestos – contains the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012, the Approved Code of Practice and guidance text for employers about work which disturbs, or is likely to disturb, asbestos, asbestos sampling and laboratory analysis.

Licensable Work (with Asbestos) – Asbestos Licensing is a "permissioning regime". Permissioning regimes such as asbestos licensing are only considered where the work activities involve significant hazard, risk or public concern. Asbestos is classified as a category 1 carcinogen, with asbestos related disease causing around 4500 deaths every year in the UK. Work with asbestos requires a high degree of regulatory control and the purpose of licensing is to achieve this.

Management Survey (previously known as a Type 2 Survey) – the standard survey required for the Asbestos Register. Locates, as far as reasonably practicable, asbestos materials that could be disturbed or damaged during normal occupancy of the building. Will often involve minor intrusive work and sampling of materials for subsequent analysis in a laboratory. The survey does not detect asbestos concealed or 'hidden' within a building and in the first instance, should not be considered as a suitable assessment for undertaking building works.

Method Statement – The method by which the Licensed Removal Contractor will remove and dispose of ACMs.

MDHS 100 – superseded standard of asbestos survey.

Notification Period – Where asbestos work is deemed as 'licensable work with asbestos' i.e. work requiring a license issued by the HSE. It is a condition of the license for contractors to formally notify the appropriate enforcing authority at least 14 days before each job. Suitable and sufficient plans of work are a license condition for any licensable work with asbestos, and a legal requirement. It is therefore imperative that adequate / realistic timescales are considered early in the project planning stage.

Plan of Works – The plan by which the Licensed Removal contractor will set out the transit routes, location of skip, enclosure, location of Negative Pressure Unit etc.

PPE – Personal Protective Equipment such as overalls, masks, gloves etc.

Project Manager – Any person instructing or supervising work within University controlled buildings e.g. Estate Management, Maintenance Managers, Departmental Heads or representatives. Project management entails important responsibilities for asbestos.

Project management - The planning, monitoring and control of all aspects of a project and the motivation of all those involved in it, to achieve the project objectives on time and to the specified cost, quality.

Refurbishment and Demolition Survey (previously known as a Type 3 Survey) – The purpose of these surveys is to identify all ACMs so that they can be removed prior to refurbishment or demolition. Utilises invasive inspection techniques and is normally disruptive e.g. access into voids, lifting floorboards and investigating back to the structure where possible. Should detect hidden and concealed materials. Required to be carried out in the areas where projects, major works, refurbishment, demolition and maintenance work of an invasive nature are being carried out.

Risk – The chance, high or low, that somebody could be harmed by a hazard, together with an indication of how serious the harm could be.

Visual Inspection – An inspection of the enclosure / work area by the Analyst to see if all the ACMs specified have been satisfactorily remediated prior to carrying out an Airborne Fibre Count within the affected area.

UKAS – United Kingdom Accreditation Service. This is the sole national accreditation body recognised by government to assess, against internationally agreed standards, organisations that provide certification, testing, inspection and calibration services. Accreditation by UKAS demonstrates competence, impartiality and performance capabilities.