



## Asbestos Surveys

**The Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002 puts a legal duty on the person responsible for a building to manage the risk from asbestos within a building.**

The purpose of our surveys is to determine the presence of asbestos within a building. Once identified any asbestos containing materials can be monitored and managed.

We can perform various type of surveys tailored to your specific requirements and meeting the MDHS standard and our associate consultants are HSE Licenced.

- **Type 1 - Location & Assessment Survey** - visual inspection
- **Type 2 - Sampling Survey** - samples of suspect materials are tested at a UKAS accredited laboratory.



**We provide a full written report on completion of the survey, including:**

- Asbestos register - detailing all of the asbestos containing and suspect containing materials. Details of the condition of the materials found and their fibre release likelihood.
- Photographic record of asbestos containing materials produced.
- Annotated building plans.
- Asbestos free materials are also identified and recorded.

### Asbestos the Facts

Asbestos will only pose a risk to health if asbestos fibres are released into the air. They form a very fine dust which is often invisible to the naked eye. The use of asbestos insulation is now banned, but in the past it was a winder material and used extensively as a building material.

It was most commonly used as:

- insulating lagging on pipework and for boilers and ducts
- insulating boards, used as wall partitions, fire doors, ceiling tiles etc.
- cement products such as gutters, pipes, decorative plaster, wall and roof sheeting and cold water tanks.
- spray coating on steel work, concrete walls and ceilings, for fire protection and insulation.

### Asbestos Dust Kills

Breathing in air containing asbestos dust can lead to asbestos-related diseases. These are mainly cancers of the chest and lungs. Asbestos-related diseases are currently killing an estimated 3000 people a year in Great Britain. This number is expected to go on rising into the next century. There is no cure for asbestos-related diseases. The majority of people now dying were exposed to asbestos during the 1950s and 1960s when the use of asbestos was widespread. But exposure is still occurring. Only by preventing these exposures now, will asbestos-related disease eventually be eradicated.

### The Risks

Whenever any type of maintenance, repair or refurbishment work is undertaken in buildings which were built or refurbished before 1985, asbestos could be disturbed and asbestos dust released into the atmosphere. This dust would be breathed in by the builders and other people living or working in the area without them realising it. If this was repeated often, it can build up on the lungs and asbestos related diseases can develop in later life.

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