

# UKATA will lead the way in Asbestos Training

January 2008 saw the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) pass responsibility for managing the list of training providers for licensed asbestos work to the United Kingdom Asbestos Training Association (UKATA).

UKATA will set standards, audit and manage the list of asbestos training providers in the future. If training has **not** been provided by a UKATA member, enforcing officers may ask licensed asbestos operators to demonstrate how Chapter 4 of the Licensed Contractors' Guide has been complied with.

Previously, HSE provided a list of known asbestos training providers as a service to individuals looking for asbestos training. HSE did not approve any training provider's status and merely directed enquirers to the training providers list. HSE have formally tasked UKATA, as the single organisation to monitor training standards amongst its members.



**Peter Robinson**  
*UKATA Chairman*

**Peter Robinson, Chairman of UKATA, said:**

"There are exciting times ahead for UKATA and its members. With HSE's support and backing, we will build on the work that HSE started with the list of asbestos training providers. Initially, I see the role of UKATA being to undertake a thorough audit of all members and raise the profile of the association to key stakeholders. Ultimately, this association will provide the benchmark of standards that asbestos training providers will have to achieve and maintain.

We are giving immediate attention to the issue of **Training for Licensed Asbestos Work**. However, I am well aware of the concerns of many, that standards in **Asbestos Awareness Training** and **Training for Unlicensed Asbestos Work** are often poor, being given by people with little knowledge or experience. I want to include competent training providers in these areas into the association as early as possible so that the whole issue of sub-standard asbestos training is tackled as a whole and the consumers given value for money, in that the risk to their staff is assessed and managed in accordance with HSE Guidelines regarding Asbestos Training.

**Greg Haywood, Head of Asbestos Licensing Unit, HSE, commented:**

"The Asbestos Licensing Unit is glad to be associated with the launch of this new industry-led training association. Training is a crucial tool for employers to reduce future

work related asbestos deaths. Through the work of UKATA I expect to see continuous improvements in training standards for all those working with asbestos from now on"

***The Asbestos Trade Associations:***

***ARCA, NFDC & ACAD are all involved with UKATA. Each of them has a seat by right on the Executive Committee. That committee has representatives from asbestos training providers in all parts of the industry and can be seen as truly representative of the marketplace providers***

**A complete list of UKATA approved members can be viewed on the website:**

**[www.ukata.org.uk](http://www.ukata.org.uk)**

**or contact Mike Keeligan, General Manager, UKATA on 01325 460112**

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