

UKATAMATTERS

NEWSLETTER FROM THE UK ASBESTOS TRAINING ASSOCIATION

ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

UNITED KINGDOM
ASBESTOS TRAINING
ASSOCIATION

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UKATA | UNITED KINGDOM
ASBESTOS TRAINING
ASSOCIATION



**In this
issue...**



UKATA News



Legislation Updates



FREE Hearing Tests



Bridging the Gap



Conferences & Events

AT VILLA PARK



Villa Park stadium is the perfect venue for your next event, whether it be a small meeting or conference, a private party or an exhibition, we have a variety of suites to suit a range of requirements.

- **Unique venue**
- **Award-winning catering**
- **State of the art facilities**
- **Free car parking**
- **Stadium tours for delegates**
- **Events from 2-800 guests**
- **Central location - excellent motorway and train links**

“First-class service from beginning to end, very professional and understanding of our requirements.”

AWARD-WINNING VENUE



Behind the Scenes at Villa Park



LOCAL PROCUREMENT

All catering suppliers are locally based within the Five Counties surrounding the West Midlands.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF OUR ALLOTMENT

Expanding our site and planting more vegetables and herbs.



WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Comprehensive waste management programme is followed in close partnership with Veolia Environmental.

CARBON NEUTRAL VENUE

In February 2013 Villa Park officially became a Carbon Neutral Venue.



0800 612 0960 (option 2) | www.avhe.co.uk

Aston Villa Football Club, Trinity Road, Birmingham, B6 6HE

Welcome...

It is my great privilege as the newly appointed CEO, to bring you your first edition of UKATA Matters, the brand new official newsletter of the Association.

It has been a hectic start to the year for all, as we anticipated. The long awaited introduction of the new CAR Regulations in April 2012 appear to have finally provided the incentive and reassurance many clients needed before committing to further expenditure on asbestos compliance. I believe our role in the asbestos training marketplace remains as critical as ever, and via UKATA Matters we aim to bring you important industry updates, plus news and views from the Association and its Members.

The newsletter has been created by the Development and Marketing working group, and we believe all good things come to those who wait! So thank you for waiting for this first edition that was originally scheduled for January. We now aim to publish two editions this year, and a minimum of two issues per year

subsequently. We trust that you will find the articles and news in our first addition both interesting and informative, and we welcome your ideas and feedback. Drop us a line at any time, to: ukatamatters@ukata.org.uk

It is a terrific honour to be leading the UKATA Team and representing such a professional Membership. My focus in the new role is simple: To foster and engender a positive culture and professional ethos throughout the Association - thus empowering all to deliver an excellent service to Members. Whether you think we are living up to that mission, or whether you think from time to time there is any room for improvement, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Terry Barker, CEO

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Markham Vale
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S44 5HY

New employee

UKATA is delighted to announce the appointment of Leane Davison to the new position of Apprentice Receptionist/Administrator, with effect from 2 April.

In the wake of the successful move to new headquarters at Markham Vale, Leane is the latest addition to the UKATA team and joins the existing complement of five staff already providing services to members. The increasing Membership base has led to a requirement for a more permanent receptionist and administrator support function, and Leane joins via the Association's Training provider, the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce.

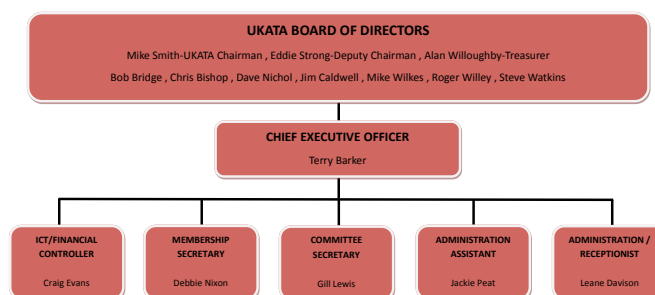
Local girl Leane joins UKATA for an initial 12 month

placement, while continuing to study for her NVQ level 2 in Business Administration.

"I am really excited to be working for UKATA and the experience will be an invaluable part of my studies," said Leane. "I'm looking forward to learning new skills, which will help develop my future career and repaying UKATA's faith in me."

UKATA CEO, Terry Barker, said: "While Leane will be honing her own skills as part of her course, she will also be extending the scope and range of expertise within our office support functions, as

NEW TEAM STRUCTURE



UKATA Organogram — UKATA Executive & Office Team — Updated April 2013

well as supporting other staff and freeing up some of their time to concentrate on their core roles for the Association. Leane will therefore be an invaluable

addition to the team, and I'm sure all Members will join me in offering Leane a warm welcome to the UKATA family and wishing her every success during her time with us."

UKATA news

Relocation

The UKATA team has now moved to our new home in the Markham Vale Environment Centre. The growth of the Association meant there was a real need for a larger unit, not only to better accommodate existing staff, but to deliver the improved facilities required, while at the same time providing enough extra space to accommodate further expansion in the future

"We had outgrown our previous unit and needed bigger premises to comfortably house existing members of staff, while at the same time being better prepared to serve our members, given our ambitious plans for future growth," explained Chief Executive Officer, Terry Barker. "Our staff are very happy in their new environs and I'm sure visiting members will find it a considerable improvement on the old offices."

The new unit offers plenty of space for further expansion and offers ample parking for visitors.



Training facilities

Together with delivering improved conditions for staff, one of the major benefits for UKATA Members of the Association's new headquarters is a fully equipped meeting/training room, which we can now offer to members - initially on a limited first-come-first-served basis, to gauge its popularity.

The room is available for members to book, subject to availability, and will be organised via a diary system. The room can comfortably accommodate up to 12 people and comes with all the modern equipment necessary, including Wi-Fi and smart TV facilities.

To ensure all members have an equal opportunity to make use of the space, members will be eligible for one free booking per calendar month as part of their annual membership. In the event of UKATA members wishing to use the room on a more regular basis, preferential member rates will apply.

Anyone interested in booking the room should contact UKATA reception on 0844 372 2810.



UKATA regional meetings

We have recently completed the UKATA Regional Meetings in the Midlands, Staffordshire, South West, Scotland and the South East. These were a huge success and thanks for this must go to the hosts of these events, who so kindly made their premises available for the meetings.

The meetings were very productive and thanks must also go to all of those who made the effort to attend on the day, which made a big contribution to what turned in to a wide range of debates on a variety of key subject matters in connection with the industry.

Very positive feedback has been received already from attendees, demonstrating the benefit of these meetings for Members. As a result, further regional meetings are currently being planned for the Autumn, and dates will be announced in due course.

Appointment of new CEO

Welcome to UKATA Matters, the official Newsletter of the UK Asbestos Training Association (UKATA). It is my privilege to welcome you to our First Edition, since the greatest opportunity one can receive is being given the honour of being of service to the industry sector and professional arena (asbestos & health and safety) which has been the mainstay of your occupational life.

I am proud to have been given the role of leading UKATA, a not for profit association with a clear vision and a future directed towards ensuring that asbestos training providers are adequately competent, and are delivering best in class course materials. Consequently, our Members through the delivery of quality training aim to ensure that those working with asbestos are appropriately trained such that they meet the competence needs commensurate of such a high risk industry. Additionally, the important and much wider need to promote asbestos awareness to the construction industry, allied trades and others, remains essential if we are to see a desired and significant reduction in the prevalence of asbestos related death, misery and ill-health during this century. UKATA was founded with a vision to serve the needs of the asbestos, demolition and wider construction industry, and I look forward to continuing and yet strengthening that tradition. It is my goal to enhance the trust and confidence of our members and the other stakeholders we serve. The core of our mission is the same – to establish, maintain and verify asbestos training standards whilst promoting best practice amongst training providers.

Over the last four years, UKATA has benefitted from many individuals who have been willing to offer their

time, knowledge and expertise (in particular the Directors past and present) freely since they understand that the success of UKATA helps assure and underpin the success of the industry.

The asbestos industry today is changing. I am committed to working with our UKATA team and the membership to support that change in a positive fashion, whether it is advances in technology, a changing culture within the workforce, or the necessary legislative and guidance changes aimed to ensure that only truly competent individuals work with asbestos containing materials.

My vision is simple: To build and maintain the trust, confidence and capability that our members and other stakeholders seek. While accomplishing this goal, UKATA must remain financially viable during changing times, albeit times which continue to represent the most challenging economic climate in our nation's recent history. By working closely with the members we serve, other key industry stakeholders, and by providing quality information for our Board of Directors to utilise in planning and decision making, it is my goal to not only drive the highest quality asbestos training standards but to maintain and improve UKATA's economic viability.

UKATA's Board of Directors represents the finest leaders within our sector each of

whom bring expertise in their respective fields. Their commitment to integrity and corporate governance is demonstrated through the policies they develop and implement, and the time they volunteer to comprehensively review UKATA activities and set the strategic direction.

Past experience has also taught us the importance of engagement. I am totally dedicated to a constructive collaborative process, listening carefully to key stakeholders and addressing their concerns in our business strategies and actions.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with your ideas, thoughts and visions for how UKATA can be developed and utilised to its fullest potential. I can be contacted privately on terry@ukata.org.uk with regard to any UKATA matter (pardon the pun!). All newsletter feedback is welcome and should be directed to ukatamatters@ukata.org.uk

Again, I feel distinctly privileged and honoured to be leading the Association. The team and I are dedicated to providing quality support, good communication and excellence in serving our members.

Sincerely,
Terry Barker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Terry Barker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Legislation update

Waste

Does ADR apply?

Recently, there have been a number of queries regarding the training for asbestos removal personnel (licensed and un-licensed) involved in waste handling, the classification of waste and the correct procedures with regard to the ADR (Accord Dangereux Routier) or better known to us as European dangerous goods transport regulations. The biggest issue has been the level of training that would be required by a contractor undertaking the transfer of waste from site to tip.

The simple answer is Yes, for most LARC's ADR will apply as they are handling fibrous waste (European Waste Code (EWC)) 170601, however where they ONLY handle bonded waste (EWC 170605) an exemption under special provision 168 (SP168) will apply and thus ADR will not apply. Bonded asbestos is defined as 'asbestos which is immersed or fixed in a natural or artificial binder, such as cement, resins, plastics, in such away that no escape of hazardous quantities of fibres can occur during carriage'. For more guidance on European Waste Codes (EWC) under The List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005 (LOW) see <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2005/895/contents/made>

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/low_guide_v1.2_139722.pdf

The EWC Search Facility has been developed as a useful resource

<http://wastesupport.co.uk/ewc-codes/> from the Environment Agency (EA) Thesaurus. If you have any specific queries on EWC Codes, you should contact the EA for advice on 08708 506 506.

Typically then ADR will apply in full, unless a partial exemption defined as a 'Small Load Limit Exemption' (ADR Chapter 1.1.3.6), can be applied. Where these exemptions DO apply an ADR qualified driver will not be needed, and orange plates will not need to be displayed on the vehicle. The exemptions are for carriers who never move more than 333kgs Blue asbestos (Crocidolite) or Brown asbestos (amosite, myosorite) (UN2212) [NB: In practice, since CAR 2006 brown asbestos is commonly identified as asbestos grunerite (amosite), CAS No 12172-73-5), or more than 1,000kgs White asbestos (chrysotile, actinolite, anthophyllite, tremolite) (UN2590).

Nevertheless, any person handling asbestos must be suitably trained specific to their duties and should receive the relevant training to assist in their specific role, often

referred to 'Dangerous Goods Awareness Training'. Although there is no specific course available through UKATA, Category C and Category B members should familiarise themselves with ADR and build this into the relevant modules of their training courses (ADR Chapter 1.3).

In particular our members will know that the 3.5 tonne vehicle threshold ended in 2006 and as such the 'Transport rules' as described in Chapter 7.100, page 90, HSG247 Asbestos: The licensed contractors' guide has been superseded accordingly.

Licensed carrier taking loads in excess of 333kg (UN2212) or more than 1,000kgs (UN2590) should ensure that orange plates are displayed along with UN Class 9 placards on skips.

There has also been some industry discussion regarding waste handling, and HSE via the Asbestos Liaison Group

(ALG) are in the process of drafting for release a memo on the correct handling of asbestos waste for licensed asbestos removal contractors. This is expected to be released shortly and may require UKATA members to update their training material to coincide with the requirements of ALG Memo.

For more information on Asbestos waste packaging and carriage please visit the HSE website. NB: The Department of Transport (DfT) has responsibility for transport legislation and the HSE website thus reflects DfT policy and legislation.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/cdg/manual/commonproblems/asbestos.htm>

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/cdg/manual/index.htm>



UN Class 9 placards on skips

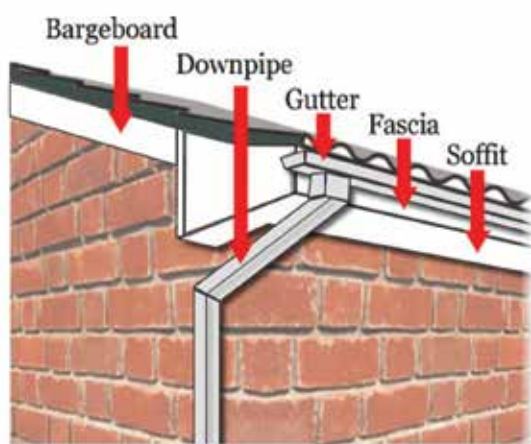


Fibrous asbestos waste, AIB containing Amosite and Chrysotile UN2212

Soffit guidance

Soffits - To enclose or not to enclose? - that is the question

The answer to this question is fundamental to the core duties [Avoidance of Exposure (Reg. 11) and Prevention of Spread (Reg. 16)] enshrined in CAR 2012. In line with this philosophy, HSE, via the Asbestos Liaison Group has issued long awaited guidance on AIB soffit removal, with details on partial and full enclosure. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/committees/alg/memo0312.pdf>



The asbestos insulating board (AIB) soffit guidance has been released (ALG memo 03/12). This memo details the processes that would need to be undertaken to remove AIB soffits. The memo does not apply to asbestos cement (AC) soffits, however personnel removing AC soffits will fall under the relevant Category B (non-licensed) requirement for training. In practice, to achieve compliance with Regulations 5, 6 and 7 it is important that dutyholders first establish whether soffits are AC or AIB.

In general the guidance covers:

- Identification and risk assessment
- Site set up
- Enclosures Partial/Full
- PPE
- Decontamination
- Certificate of Reoccupation

The main consideration for the safe removal of soffits is the prevention of spread of asbestos fibres while undertaking this work. In the past many asbestos soffits were removed using a 'trough' detail, where the access platform was lined with polythene but was not always sealed to the eaves tiles on the fabric of the building, eliminating the need for negative pressure units (NPU's), decontamination was problematic amongst other things. Alternatively the other method, not always chosen was to create a full working enclosure.

PARTIAL ENCLOSURE

A 'partial enclosure' is an 'enclosure' which consists of 4 sides and a base which is built next to the wall of the building and just below the soffit. It is constructed on a working platform which may be conventional scaffolding or other suitable access equipment. The platform should be wide enough to allow safe work (probably about 2 metres). The partial enclosure is designed to capture and contain all falling debris and fragments during the soffit removal. The platform should be fitted with impervious sheeting (e.g. 1000 gauge polythene) on the floor and all external sides up to 1-1.5 metres. Sheeting on the inner side (i.e. next to the building) should be up to about one metre (i.e. barrier height). The platform should contain supplementary flooring to avoid a slip hazard. Further sheeting should be used to protect the building wall. It should be attached just below the soffit (i.e. at eaves level) and extend into the platform. A standard size 3-stage airlock (i.e. 1x1x2m) should be employed a ground level with a partial enclosure and be used as the means of entry and exit to the work area. Where possible, the airlock should be attached to the scaffolding or tower for securing purposes. Otherwise it should be free-standing. It should be secured as necessary.



FULL ENCLOSURE

A 'full enclosure' is an 'enclosure' which is constructed at the side of the building and encloses the soffit work area. It will extend to the eaves or gutter level (or slightly beyond on the roof). It should be attached to the building. Its purpose is to enclose the soffit. The enclosure is only necessary at the 'upper level' of the building although it will need to be sited on scaffolding for multi-storey buildings. The enclosure should be constructed from 1000 gauge polythene. The platform should be wide enough to allow safe work (probably about 2 metres). Sheeting should be used on the inner wall to protect the building wall. It should be attached just below the soffit (i.e. at eaves level) and extend to the enclosure floor. The enclosure should be fitted with a 3-stage airlock and baglock and be placed under negative pressure. The enclosure should be smoke tested as normal.

It is recognised that the 'negative pressure' in the enclosure will be much reduced when the first soffit section is removed. Therefore to ensure that the inward airflow towards the NPU is maximised (and air movement into the ceiling void or loft is minimised), a higher air change rate in this type of enclosure should be used. An air change rate of at least 20 air changes per hour should be employed.

The additional requirement will be that a 4 stage certificate of reoccupation will also be required for both enclosure set ups (excluding stage 3 (clearance air test) on partial enclosure).



UKATA AGM

Friday 21 June, Aston Villa

The UK Asbestos Training Association (UKATA) fifth Annual General Meeting will be taking place this year on Friday 21 June. The venue is once again Aston Villa Football Club and a provisional agenda for the day has just been announced and as usual, the speakers due to address the conference will once again make it a must-attend event for both members and industry watchers alike.

Dr Martin Gibson's address last year was always going to be a hard act to follow, but with the Head of ALU Archie Mitchell already confirmed, this year's conference is already set to be one to remember. Mr Mitchell's 11.30 speech will be followed by another keynote address in the afternoon by Hayley Saunders, a Senior Associate of Shoosmiths LLP, who will be delivering

an update on Asbestos Law. The day's events will conclude with Neil Hodge, a photographer and journalist giving his insights on Mesothelioma.

"We have one speaker still to confirm, but with the appearance of Mr Mitchell, this year's conference is already shaping up to be our best yet," said UKATA CEO Terry Barker. "The last year has been a pivotal one

for our Association, in terms of new members, new staff and a new Head Office and the industry as a whole, has had many new developments to get to grips with, so there is a lot to fit in at both the AGM and the following conference."

Members should have received their invitation for the AGM and bookings for the conference are being taken now.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS:



ARCHIE MITCHELL is the head of HSE's Asbestos Licensing Unit (ALU). Archie had a quality control analysis and quality assurance auditing background with a large multinational business. He was involved in investigating several large cases before becoming a principal inspector.



HAYLEY SAUNDERS is an Associate within the specialist Regulatory Department, focusing on Health & Safety, Trading Standards and Environmental legislation. She has extensive experience in this area and advises and represents clients across a wide range of sectors.



NEIL HODGE, Photographer and Journalist. He has dedicated a great deal of his work to raising awareness of asbestos and its related disease, Mesothelioma. During the conference he will be presenting on attitudes to, and use of asbestos in the UK around the world.

Provisional programme/ timings for the AGM on Friday 21 June at AVFC, Villa park, Birmingham is: (Members only)

09:30
AGM registration

10:00
AGM

Provisional programme/ timings for the CONFERENCE on Friday 21 June at AVFC, Villa park, Birmingham is:

11:00
Refreshments and conference registration

11:30
Archie Mitchell, Head of ALU, HSE - Developments and policy in Asbestos Licensing, Training and Competency considerations

12:30 - 13:30
Lunch

13:30 - 14:15
Hayley Saunders, Senior Associate, Shoosmiths LLP - H&S and Asbestos Law Update

2.15
Refreshments

2:30
Speaker TBC

3:30
Neil Hodge, Photographer and Journalist. Mesothelioma, attitudes and international use

4:00
Close

Legislation update

CAR 2012

New Asbestos Approved Code of Practice (ACoP) Consultation coming...

OUT WITH THE OLD - IN WITH THE NEW!

Members will recall that in March 2011, the Government established an independent review of health and safety legislation to make proposals for simplifying the existing raft of health and safety law. This review was chaired by leading risk management specialist Professor Ragnar Löfstedt.

The HSE published Professor Löfstedt's report 'Reclaiming health and safety for all: An independent review of health and safety regulation' on 28 November 2011.

Professor Löfstedt's report sets out a number of risk- and evidence-based recommendations that it is intended will:

- reduce regulatory requirements on business where they do not lead to improved health and safety outcomes, and
- remove pressures on business to go beyond what the regulations require, enabling them to reclaim ownership of the management of health and safety.

Officially, the HSE deadline for publishing the revised ACoPs (not limited to asbestos) is the end of 2013.

As all members will be aware the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (CAR) came into force last year on 6th April 2012. The HSE has yet to revise the two ACoPs to the regulations, however this work is now considerably progressed.

After all, 'Löfstedt', provides a good opportunity to update, consolidate and simplify guidance. The Asbestos Policy Unit (Bootle) continues to grapple with delivering upon

this opportunity in our sector, principally focusing on the requirements to revise and consolidate the asbestos ACoPs.

The expected public consultation of the asbestos ACoP has now been scheduled to July this year as the work involved is extensive. July – September 2103 is now anticipated as the likely period for public consultation, and depending on the response during the period of consultation it is hoped that the ACoP will be finalised and issued in late 2013.

The new asbestos ACoP, which is likely to replace the current ACoP documents L143 and L127, should be reduced in size wherever possible, but the HSE has indicated that the general view arising from the 'Löfstedt', consultation, ACoPs of ~32 pages will not necessarily be applied; rather the size will be commensurate to the aims of the document. In reality, the final length of the revised asbestos ACoP is likely to be greater than 32 pages but this will depend upon HSE board approval, consultation and any subsequent redrafting which may be entailed.

The principal aim of the ACoP re-draft is to:

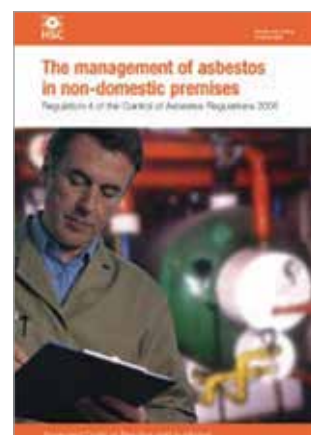
Clarify certain aspects of legal duty and to focus on easy to understand language (plain English) for easier dutyholder interpretation of key duties.

It is clear (Regulations have changed in the interim) that there are areas where changes in the ACoP will be required. Whilst speculative, industry insiders believe the following objectives and substantives changes may appear, once the public draft is available:

- The Regulation 4 'duty to manage' ACoP may be combined such that there will be a single ACoP relating to Asbestos (CAR 2012).
- Signposting to be improved with use of colour tabs/sections in line with recent HSE books policy
- Revised definitions may be provided to improve interpretation.
- Clarification of the differences with licensed work, notifiable non-licensed work (NNLW) and non-licensed work
- Dutyholder responsibilities under Regulation 4 will be elucidated.
- Generally the document should be easier for SMEs to comprehend and key aspects should be clearer

- The simplification and clarification as regards training requirements

The ACoP may bring in a number of changes related to training for the asbestos industry, which will be of importance to our members.



Legislation update

Other areas of change proposed are:

- Material supporting Regulations 2, 3, 9 and 22 is to be revised to reflect recent changes to the law on notification of certain non licensed work with asbestos and consequent arrangements for medical examinations for employees and for the keeping of health records.
- Material supporting Regulation 10 to be simplified to help employers understand more clearly what they need to do in relation to providing information, instruction and training to employees.
- In relation to work with asbestos, aspects pertaining to Regulation 10 'IIT' will seek to address what compliance looks like. The core theme will be competence, with that being an iterative TNA based process. Appropriate cross-reference to Regulation

18 'Asbestos Areas' might be made since Regulation 18(4) provides for an 'absolute duty' as regards competence of workers.

- Revisions to be made to reflect changes to the Control of Asbestos Regulations since they were introduced in 2006.

As indicated, it remains a distinct possibility on grounds of policy that the ACoP L127 "duty to manage" is withdrawn and the material it contains is simplified and incorporated within the revised ACoP. Account should be taken of other HSE guidance on this topic published since L127 was produced.

These changes will bring all ACoP material in relation to working with asbestos together in one document. In addition, clarifying and simplifying the advice provided will make them more useable and understandable to better enable business to meet their legal obligations.

Update on other pertinent asbestos guidance:

The Analyst Guide: It is understood that over 50% of the revised analyst guide is developed. An 'asbestos in soils' section is to be included based on collaboration between HSE and Health and Safety Laboratories. Timeframe for this is uncertain but it is thought that a draft may be available for public consultation sometime in late 2013, with publication expected in early 2014.

Asbestos: The licensed contractors' guide - with the current significant workloads of the HSE, it is not known quite when the revised 'Contractors' guide' will surface, but it is logical that this document will follow sometime in 2014 after the publication of the revised ACoP. Whilst speculative, again industry insiders believe that much of the recent work involved in the drafting and publication of ALG Memos will feature in the revised HSG247 document. This may include additions or updates

in topic areas such as:

- Trades entering live asbestos enclosures.
- The maintenance and servicing of DCUs, along with gas and electrical considerations.
- The 'work status' as regards 'asbestos paper' and asbestos in soils
- Quill falcon and other blasting considerations
- Air handling and management within enclosures
- Simultaneous work involving large scale work on AIB ceilings
- Ancillary Licence Holder requirements
- Handling asbestos waste
- Worker involvement

Only time will tell, since in the interim changes in policy may occur. Moreover, the final ACoP drafting will prescribe the needs of the guidance and HSE board approval will be required, along with consultation.

STOP PRESS:

HSE publishes latest mesothelioma statistics:
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/causdis/mesothelioma/index.htm>

Other legislation

FEE FOR INTERVENTION - This is now enforced, but it will not involve asbestos licensing for the foreseeable future but will apply to asbestos licence holders in respect to non-licensed activity such as carrying out non-licensed work – e.g. construction/ demolition/scaffolding or in relation to matters where the issue being considered is not specifically and directly related to the activity of licensed work.

CONSTRUCTION - CDM revision. There is a need to fully implement the temporary and mobile construction sites directive as soon as possible. HSE is thus preparing to consult on regulations to replace CDM 2007, potentially later this year. Considerations may include how pre-construction co-ordination may be improved, along with measures to improve how the construction industry ensures that workers and contractors are competent.

Free hearing screenings for UKATA members

The UK's only medical charity dedicated to research into hearing loss and related conditions has teamed up with UKATA to offer free hearing screenings to UKATA member organisations and affiliates*. Deafness Research UK's hearing screening service is part of the charity's award-winning Bionic Ear Show team. Sponsored by BUPA and the Big Lottery Fund, it provides free hearing screening and advice on ear health to businesses, schools and exhibitions throughout the country to encourage regular checks to make sure problems are identified and dealt with as early as possible.

Hearing is an often forgotten part of the health and safety equation, yet good hearing is essential for an individual's well-being. Impaired hearing can seriously affect a person's life both at home and at work. Many people are unaware they have a hearing difficulty, but Deafness Research UK has found that 30-40% of blue collar workers need a referral to a GP for further examination. For white collar workers the percentage requiring a GP referral is still surprisingly high, at 15-20%. As early diagnosis and treatment can make a real difference for the individual, you will be doing your workforce a great service by requesting a visit from Deafness Research UK's hearing screening service.

If you are in the Greater London area and can guarantee that at least 50 people will have their hearing

screened, Deafness Research UK's team of advisors will attend your workplace free of charge to offer hearing screenings for your staff. Deafness Research UK's offer extends outside Greater London as well. However, because of the extra travelling and other costs, the charity requires a minimum number of 100 people taking hearing screenings.

The screening is conducted on a laptop with headphones, testing each ear individually through a bleep test. The test lasts approximately five minutes, with a preliminary talk about the test and a follow-on explanation of results. The charity also provides information leaflets and factsheets on looking after your hearing, and a full breakdown of the results of the test, which will indicate whether there is any hearing loss. The team gives



individuals advice on whether they should talk to their GP about further testing.

Deafness Research UK can screen six people every 15 minutes and over 150 people in a single day. They will need a quiet room with tables, chairs and power sockets.

Organisations that have already benefited from Deafness Research UK free hearing screenings include:

Kier Build, Laing O'Rourke, Lloyds TSB, Cancer Research UK, Office for National Statistics, Transport for

London, British Airways, Amnesty International, and Royal Sun Alliance.

For further information or to book your organisation in for free hearing screenings from Deafness Research UK, please contact

**Hearing Screenings
Co-ordinator on
0207 296 8056**

deafness research uk
www.deafnessresearch.org.uk

Terms and conditions*

Deafness Research UK's offer is made in good faith based on a minimum of 50 people for the hearing screenings (Greater London) and a minimum of 100 people (outside Greater London). Deafness Research UK reserves the right to charge a fee of £250 towards their costs if an organization cancels a hearing screening session at short notice or if the sufficient numbers of people fail to turn up. Free hearing screenings are offered on a first-come first-served basis and are subject to availability.

Affiliate companies and organizations

You may offer this opportunity via your business network to non-UKATA member organizations, if you feel any of your suppliers, clients and/or partner organizations may benefit from Deafness Research UK hearing screenings. The same terms and conditions above apply to affiliate organizations as to UKATA members.

Sheffield man Bridges asbestos awareness gap

Thousands of tradespeople remain at risk

Sheffield's Bob Bridge (also the Vice Chair of Humberside & South Yorkshire Working Well Together Group (Construction), working closely with the HSE on safety training strategy) was elected to the UKATA Executive Committee at the organisation's 2012 AGM at Villa Park. The Co-owner of Bridge Safety & Training has a stark message for tradespeople who remain untrained in the safe handling of asbestos - you are at risk.

Up to 50% of people both locally and nationally are inadvertently putting themselves at a daily risk of asbestos exposure, when they could protect themselves and others for less than the price of a decent power tool. That's the reality for the many thousands of builders, plasterers, gas engineers, joiners and other tradespeople who continue to risk their lives through blissful ignorance of the continuing existence of asbestos, especially in residential properties that were built or re-furnished prior to the year 2000.

Bob knows more than most the risk of asbestos exposure, as he himself suddenly realised some years ago that he would probably have been exposed to asbestos in a former life as a general labourer after leaving the armed forces. "I was working on a refurbishment project for a local housing association and we were ripping out textured coating and asbestos insulating board (AIB) on a daily basis. I realise now that all the labourers on that contract were potentially exposed to dangerous levels of asbestos, yet nobody seemed remotely interested or

concerned with it at the time.

"I don't remember any real training or precautions being taken, and so I am as sure as I can be that I was exposed to asbestos.

"Once this became apparent I was really shocked. I decided to make it my mission to at least inform as many people as possible of the facts, so that they can avoid the likely exposure levels I had to endure along with my colleagues all those years ago."

Bob suffers from COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), and whilst he cannot prove 100% that this is directly linked to asbestos exposure, he suspects that asbestos may well be linked to his medical condition, now he is fully furnished with the facts about the hidden killer that is asbestos.

"I am not a jobsworth by any stretch of the imagination", said Bob, yet people are still being exposed to unnecessary and totally avoidable risks on a daily basis when it comes to asbestos - that's why I am so passionate about asbestos awareness and why Bridge

Safety joined and continues to be an active Member of UKATA. The Association has, I believe, a key role to play in the industry; people simply need to know the risks so they can make informed choices.

Once people know what the implications are they can make their own decisions, but a complete lack of awareness of the real risk in this day and age is totally unforgivable.

.....

Good asbestos awareness training and communication is actively saving lives at a local and national level.

.....





"With circa 4,500 people a year (100 per week, 20 of which come from construction related occupations) still dying of asbestos related illnesses, we still have a huge amount of work to do. Can you imagine if the entire workforce (all the footballers) of the Premier League were dying of a hidden disease at a rate of 20 players per week? The country's entire elite pool of footballers would be wiped out over roughly a three month period. It sounds like a ridiculous comparison to make, but it's not. The only difference is that the tradespeople and construction workers who are dying at this alarming rate do not earn the huge salaries of the Premier League footballer and their families in many cases are left financially high and dry, not to mention the emotional devastation.

"So collectively, we as UKATA Members should never take our responsibilities lightly and never lose sight of the fact that good asbestos awareness training and communication about these issues is actively saving lives at a local and national level. If we can through awareness training each prevent just one construction worker, plumber or other tradesperson per week becoming exposed to asbestos, we will have made a valuable contribution and we will finally start to see a drop in these horrific statistics, which sadly may not yet have peaked."

Asbestos fact file

- Circa 4,500 people per year die in the UK of asbestos-related illnesses and diseases (approximately 100 per week, of which 20 are in construction-related occupations).
- Approximately 90% of asbestos that was ever manufactured remains in existence in homes built or refurbished pre-year 2000.
- 9 teachers have died from illnesses and diseases that can be directly attributable to asbestos in the workplace
- Deaths from road traffic accidents account for only 1657 annual fatalities, a much lower figure than deaths from asbestos (source: HSE)
- The peak of deaths from asbestos-related conditions has not yet occurred and people are still being exposed to asbestos on a daily basis
- A UKATA approved asbestos awareness training course that takes no more than a few hours can equip a construction worker or tradesperson with potentially life-saving asbestos awareness skills

Exclusive UKATA Members' Prize Draw and Special Offer

Win a business IT security audit, worth £4000*

What are the technological and physical threats to your business? Are your systems, intellectual property and website safe? How do you stop information leakage from employees and other non-authorised sources? How can you plug any potential security gaps without stretching financial or human resources?

These are all questions that can be answered by a comprehensive IT Security health check from industry experts, Panoplia.

UKATA has teamed up with Panoplia to offer one UKATA Member the chance to receive a **FREE** IT security audit from Panoplia, normally worth around *£4,000.

What the prize includes:

Panoplia's free IT security review includes 1-2 days spent with you on-site reviewing the current state of your IT systems. Panoplia will analyse the following areas:

LOGICAL SECURITY

- Internal IT configuration (including any connected devices/technologies and wireless networking) -Internal IT-related practices - web surfing, password usage, email usage
- Mobile device security (phones, laptops, data collection devices etc.)
- Internet connectivity
- Remote / home-working practices
- Management of sensitive information
- Human resources policies, procedures and practices
- Employee/contractor contracts
- Printers
- Relevant legislation/requirements (e.g. dealing with payment cards etc.)

SOCIAL ENGINEERING

- How attractive is your business to a casual intruder?
- How easy would it be to get sensitive information out of your business?
- How easy would it be to get your staff to do something they shouldn't?

PHYSICAL SECURITY

- Entry, exit and visitor management
- Office and non-office areas
- Fire and burglary prevention / detection mechanisms



Panoplia's comprehensive analysis will be swiftly followed by a report on the actual and perceived security risks. Panoplia will make recommendations for each category and detail how to improve them. This may be not mean spending money, often it's simple changes to business practice or planned expenditure. The emphasis is on a highly personalised service, with a senior consultant from Panoplia providing you with a bespoke consultancy service addressing the particular security threats of your own business. *The cost of this level of consultancy and reporting would usually be about £4,000, however at the end of the free audit the report is yours and you are under no obligation to take any of Panoplia's ongoing services.

Terms and conditions

Closing date is Monday 29 July 2013. Any entries received after this date will be void. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of entry. Only one entry per UKATA Member Company. No entries from non UKATA Members will be allowed. The winner will be drawn at random by the UKATA Committee and will be notified direct by UKATA. The winner's details will also appear in the next edition of UKATA Matters. Prize must be claimed by 1 September 2013 and redeemed by 31 December 2013. After this date, the prize will be deemed null and void if not redeemed. No cash alternative. Not available in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Judges' decision final, no correspondence will be entered into. By entering the Prize Draw you are agreeing that your details may be passed on to Panoplia who may wish to send you some information by post and/or email. Should you be the winner of the Prize Draw, UKATA and/or Panoplia may request your attendance in publicity including a photo-shoot to announce that you have won the prize. ** To claim the UKATA members discounted rate services must be booked prior to 1 September 2013 and audits completed 31 December 2013.

Prize Draw

To enter the Prize Draw you need to be a UKATA Member. Email Craig at info@ukata.org.uk with your answer A, B, or C by July 29 2013.

Please mark your email 'UKATA Matters Edition 1 - Prize Draw'

Question:

One of Panoplia's business IT security services is called:

- A Horizon scanning**
- B Document scanning**
- C Bar code scanning**

(To find the answer, visit Panoplia's home page at www.panoplia.co.uk)

Also include all your contact details on the email:
Full name, job title, email address, work telephone number, mobile telephone number.

Alternatively, you can post your entry. If posting, circle the correct answer with a pen and post to Craig in the UKATA office, marked 'UKATA Matters Edition 1 - Prize Draw postal entries'. Either way, your entry must include all your contact details and must be received by Monday 29 July 2013, whether by e-mail or post.

Full Name:

Job Title:

Email Address:

Work Telephone Number:

Mobile Number:

EXCLUSIVE UKATA MEMBERS' OFFER

Discounted UKATA member rate now £2,995**

Offer must be claimed by 1 September 2013 and redeemed by 31 December 2013

If you are not lucky enough to win the FREE IT Security audit prize, you can still benefit (for a limited time only), from the special rate Panoplia have agreed for UKATA members which means you can still obtain industry leading security expertise at a reduced rate of £2,995.**

Contact Nick at Panoplia for further information
(nbesant@panoplia.co.uk www.panoplia.co.uk)



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Asbestos is your Business - Security is Ours

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