Appendix 4/15

Minutes of the 16th meeting of the ALG Technical Working Group, 10 June 2015

"Other Trades" Entering Asbestos "Live Enclosures*" and "Licensed Site Work Areas for Soil Removal**"

Appendices are attached to Technical Working Group minutes when the nature and extent of discussions (or the complexity of the subject) warrants further explanation and clarification. The following is a summary of the discussions and conclusions on the above topic.

1. In certain exceptional circumstances it may become necessary for asbestos licence contractors (LC) to engage the specialist services of "other trades" (e.g. plumbers, electricians, lift engineers, excavator drivers etc) to assist in carrying out ancillary activities to enable the licensed asbestos work to be conducted safely and effectively. The work may involve "other trades" entering a live asbestos enclosure or working on a licensed site work area (eg soil removal).

Avoiding the Need to Enter

2. The LC should avoid the need for other trades to enter a live enclosure as far as possible. The need to enter should be avoided by:

- Carefully planning the work in order remove the need for other trades to enter.
- Getting other trades to complete the work prior to the asbestos removal with no disturbance to the asbestos.
- Programming the work to be carried out during 'shut downs' where additional works, such as, isolation etc., do not need to be carried out.

3. If, despite careful planning, the entry of other trades into a "live" asbestos area is unavoidable, then the LC must ensure that the other trades are adequately informed, trained and use appropriate personal and respiratory protective equipment (RPE). The LC must assume responsibility for the health and safety of the other trade as if they were one of their own directly employed employees.

Information, Instruction and Training:

4. In order for the "other trades" to enter a 'live' asbestos removal enclosure, for both 'planned work' and "emergency work", they will require suitable and sufficient information, instruction and training. The training should include:

- Use of RPE and PPE
- Personal decontamination
- Any emergency procedures relevant to the particular job being undertaken.

5. The information instruction and training can be provided to the 'other trades' by a competent member of the licensed contractor's team. A record of the training delivered should be kept within the site file.

Actions required for Entry into the Live Enclosure

6. Asbestos removal work should stop to allow the other trades to enter. The asbestos removal area should be cleaned as far as reasonably practicable. Asbestos removal should only recommence once the 'other trades' have completed their work and exited the asbestos area.

7. The individuals from the 'other trades' should be accompanied by the LC's supervisor throughout their work to ensure they conduct themselves in a safe manner.

Requirements for Other Trades to Enter

8. Other trades entering the enclosure will have to wear RPE and will have to be fit tested to ensure correct RPE is selected and worn. Where planned work is carried out, there will be sufficient time for the other trades to have the fit test prior to the works commencing. In the case of 'emergency' works it is unlikely that fit tests would be able to be arranged in time, therefore other RPE, which does not require face fitting should be used, such as powered visors.

9. Although other trades will be entering into technically a "live" enclosure, they will not be involved in any asbestos work and no asbestos removal work will be carried out at the time. Exposure to asbestos is not expected. Therefore there is no requirement for health surveillance.

Other Trades Entering a Licensed Site Work Area to Remove Soil Containing Asbestos

10. In some construction sites or land development sites, construction "other trades" (eg excavator, digger and lorry drivers, others) may need to carry out asbestos "removal work" where soils containing licensed asbestos materials need to be removed (or transported) from the site.

11. These trades will need suitable and sufficient information, instruction and training on the asbestos aspects of this work. The training will cover the items set out in paragraph 4 as appropriate. However, the use of PPE and RPE may not be necessary (eg where drivers remain in cabs) but this should be determined in a risk

assessment of the site work activities. The bulk removal of soil will be conducted by the “other trades” but the LC will have overall asbestos management control of the site and will advise and supervise on asbestos matters including the decontamination arrangements for personnel, vehicles and equipment.

* ”Live enclosure” is an enclosure or other work area where licensed asbestos materials are being removed by licensed contractors.

** “Licensed Site Work Area for Soil Removal” is a construction site or land area (or similar) where licensed asbestos materials are being removed from soil.