the journal for asbestos management professionals

arca atac news

WINTER 2023 · ISSUE 122



ARCA AGM 2023 Overview

Asbestos in Public Buildings Cost Benefit Analysis Study

ARCA Gold Site Audit Awards 2023

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Welcome to The Journal for Asbestos Management Professionals

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All comments included in content were made/are correct at the time of going to print.

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Steve Sadley, Chief Executive

ARCA's Path to Progress: Strengthening Audits, Future Plans, and Exciting Events Ahead!

It is pleasing to see the number of members recognising the value of the additional site audits provided by ARCA. I firmly believe ARCA auditors have the most experience, both in terms of numbers of audits conducted and range of different contractors they audit, of any asbestos site auditors in the country. They are independent and completely impartial, they audit without fear or favour.

Members will have noticed the significant change to the site audit form earlier this year when we added the observations boxes to the form. Observations in audits highlight improvement opportunities, best practices, and positive aspects within an organisation. They promote learning, knowledge sharing, and a constructive culture, supporting continuous improvement and growth.

We are due to update the site audit form again in January. We have mapped our audit questions to the question set the HSE use when inspecting sites where licensed asbestos work is being carried out. All of the HSE questions are covered in the existing ARCA audit form except for confined spaces, so a question has been added for occasions where confined space work is being carried out.

In addition, amendments have been made to some of the scoring, for example welfare non-conformances now score higher to reflect the importance the HSE currently places on welfare. Some of the questions have been revised, such as those on waste. There are now more options for the auditor to select from to give a more accurate representation of waste removal and storage procedures.

A major change to the way the HSE manages licensed asbestos removal contractors is shortly to be introduced. At the moment details are brief, but what we do know is that HSE have a dedicated member of staff to review all site inspections carried out by HSE inspectors of licensed asbestos removal sites. The aim is to quickly identify any trends or patterns of poor performance in licensed asbestos removal contractors' work; if identified this will prompt an HSE intervention and require corrective action.

At the time of writing, I am currently in the middle of the final round of Regional Meetings for this year. At these meetings I have given members an overview of the association's annual general meeting (AGM). The Governing Council election process was discussed, and I reminded members that they were eligible to stand for election. If anyone is interested in standing for election to the Governing Council, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to give you further information on what the role involves.

The AGM, being in October and a review of the past year, always prompts a look to the next year, and this year is no different. We are already planning for 2024. Next year's training dates have been scheduled and are included in this edition of the magazine; they are also available on the ARCA website. Remember that ARCA training can now be booked online through the website.

The feedback from this year's AGM was very positive, when asked to rate their overall experience at the event on a scale of 1-5 with 1 being extremely dissatisfied and 5 being extremely satisfied, 91% of those providing feedback rated it 4 or 5. We have taken the feedback received onboard, and are now searching for a new venue for next year with the intention of making it a bigger and better event than ever.

We are finalising arrangements for next year's golf events. The National Golf Day will be held at the Carrick Golf Course on the shores of Loch Lomond on 13 June 2024. And the European Golf Event will again be held in Majorca between 18-22 September 2024. As soon as the events are confirmed we will send out the booking information. In the meantime keep these dates free if you are planning to attend.

This winter issue of the magazine rounds off another year and we look forward to 2024. Until then may I wish all members and readers a happy and prosperous new year.



Steve Sadley
Chief Executive

OUR MISSION

To give the best possible service and support to assist ARCA members and customers in providing safe, effective and ethical management of asbestos, thereby safeguarding the public.

OUR VISION

We envision being an essential strategic partner, through membership of ARCA and ATaC, to all companies providing asbestos management and licensed asbestos removal services, or services to those companies, by providing solutions which contribute to the overall success of their businesses and provide reassurance to their clients.

OUR VALUES

Our values define the culture at ARCA. The values of integrity, service, excellence, teamwork and responsibility guide the way we work, our behaviour and our commitment to support members, customers and colleagues.

Special award for Top ARCA Gold Award

This year, ARCA has introduced two new accolades to celebrate the achievements of its members. These awards specifically honour companies that have consistently maintained the Gold Site Audit Award for both 5 and 10 consecutive years.

Furthermore, in recognition of their ongoing commitment to excellence, certain companies have been retrospectively granted the 5-year award, as they are currently holding the Gold Site Audit Award and are progressing towards potentially earning the prestigious 10-year award.

"Achieving the standards to receive the Gold Site Audit Award is hard enough but continuously achieving them over a 5 and then 10-year period is something that deserves special recognition" commented Juliette Church, Site Audit Manager for ARCA.

Platinum Award for 5 Years of Excellence

Amicus Environmental Ltd

City Building (Glasgow) LLP

Clifford Devlin Ltd

Erith Contractors Ltd

McGee Environmental Services Ltd

R & F Insulations Ltd





Diamond Award for a Decade of Excellence

Alliance Asbestos Services Ltd

Bilfinger UK Ltd

Jackson Environmental Ltd

2024 Training dates Now available!

To support your planning, training course dates have been scheduled for 2024!

Course dates can be found on the ARCA website and dates for Q1 are included on pages 40-41 in this issue of ARCA News.

A wide range of asbestos training courses, both centre-based and remote, are available to fit your business and staff needs.

Also, operative and supervisor refresher courses have been scheduled on selected Saturdays.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Don't miss out on CITB Funding

ARCA is holding Zoom briefings to explain how to apply for CITB grants and funding:

- *10.30-11.30 am (Tues 9th Jan 2024)*
- *10.30-11.30 am (Tues 6th Feb 2024)*
- *10.30-11.30 am (Tues 5th March 2024)*

These briefings are free; however, you will need to register online via the ARCA website at ***www.arca.org.uk/events/***

ARCA Member Portal Support Videos

ARCA has produced instructional videos to assist you in navigating the Member portal. These videos have been designed to provide you with a straightforward, step-by-step tutorial on how to benefit from the newly available, user-friendly features.

You can access all these videos on the Member portal homepage and in the ARCA support section of the website.

Additional videos will be added over time.

CHAS Accreditation Member Discount

Did you know? ARCA and ATaC members' can obtain a 20% discount when applying for a new CHAS accreditation and a 10% discount on renewal.

This applies for all three CHAS accreditation packages:

- ***CHAS Standard***
  [formerly CHAS (H&S)]
- ***CHAS Advanced***
  [formerly CHAS Premium Plus]
- ***CHAS Elite***
  [formerly CHAS Premium]

Information on ARCA/ATaC members' discount and the application process is available in the support sections at ***www.arca.org.uk*** *and* ***www.atac.org.uk***



ARCA Annual General Meeting 2023

The 38th ARCA Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held at The Banking Hall, Cornhill, London on the 6th of October 2023.

The Chairman, Andrew Jackson, welcomed everyone to the AGM.

ARCA held its 2023 Annual General Meeting at the former Lloyds of London headquarters building. Chairman Andrew Jackson welcomed members to the event and outlined format changes this year, including a mid-morning break, shortened presentations, and moving the awards ceremony to after lunch.

The Chairman announced two new awards to be given annually recognising 10- and 5-year achievement of the Gold Site Audit Award, celebrating members reaching these performance milestones. Members were praised for demonstrating compliance through ARCA's unannounced site audit scheme requiring four annual audits, assessed against strict criteria.

The Chairman also serves on the ATaC Committee, which compiled a report of over 1 million lines of asbestos survey data provided by UKAS inspection bodies. The report shows the extent of damaged asbestos remaining in many buildings today.

Separately, the Health and Safety Executive inspected 421 schools, finding 34 percent not managing asbestos safely. The HSE issued notices to 7 percent of schools.

The Department for Work and Pensions Select Committee issued a report recommending the establishment of a National Asbestos Database. Considering the results of the ATaC report and the HSE school inspections, the Chairman questioned whether a National Database would improve the situation, since all buildings in the ATaC report and schools inspected already had asbestos surveys and asbestos management plans, yet evidence of widespread damaged asbestos was found.

As an alternative solution, ATaC is developing a one-page asbestos management certificate to simplify assessing and communicating improvement steps needed. ATaC and ARCA now seek stakeholder support for this initiative and promotion by UKAS inspection bodies. The Chairman urged stakeholders jointly to act on this simplified asbestos management approach.

The Chief Executive, Steve Sadley, stated ARCA remains committed to maximizing value for members through excellent service, benefits, advocacy and representation. Over the past year, the staff and leadership team worked to meet high member expectations by identifying opportunities, addressing challenges, and positioning the organisation for continued success aligned to member needs.

The CEO explained that ARCA's prices for products and services had been static for many years while costs incrementally rose. High inflation over the past year rapidly increased operating costs, exceeding revenues. Pricing adjustments and efficiency improvements were implemented to achieve financial sustainability. Pricing remains competitive, with ARCA's site audit fee still 40% lower than its main competitor.

ARCA attained gold level in the Investors in People program, showing progress on people, customer, operational and financial priorities in its strategic plan ending this year. A new 3-year plan will be developed.

A major industry challenge is recruiting skilled asbestos removal professionals, exacerbated by demand from impending Net Zero building modifications. It is unclear where this workforce will come from.

ARCA membership signifies quality, safety, and ethics. Members now undergo four unannounced site audits annually. Over time the number of criteria and potential for additional non-compliances increase. So it is encouraging to see a record number of Gold Awards presented, showing members' dedication.

The new online training platform promises increased value and convenience when launched this quarter. The Site Audit Portal provides useful insights and benchmarking of audit results.

The CEO recognised the Marketing Manager for enhancing ARCA's digital presence and the Quality Manager for maintaining ISO certification.

In closing, he thanked the staff and members for their vital contributions to ARCA's continued success in delivering value while upholding standards.



Governing Council for 2022/2023

Grant Beglan
Aspect Contracts Ltd

Bob Clarke
LAR Ltd

Tim Clifford
Clifford Devlin Ltd

Tony Darsey
Erith Contractors Ltd

Jason Davy
Rhodar Ltd

Dominic Fagan
DKF Recruitment Ltd

Jonathan Francis
Riverside Environmental Ltd

Andrew Jackson
Acorn Analytical Services Ltd
(Chairman)

Scott Murray
ECT Environmental Ltd
(Deputy Chairman)

Phil Neville
Asbestech Ltd

Steve Watts
Life Environmental Ltd

Michael Woods
Rilmac Ltd

David Harrison
Spectra Analysis Services Ltd

Roy Tindall
Reddish Vale Ltd



ARCA Chairman, Andrew Jackson

Following the meeting members enjoyed a 3-course lunch in the Banking Hall, during which the Annual Awards were presented by Sam Lord of the HSE.

The ARCA AGM is always held on the first Friday of October, so next year that will be 4th October, so please put that date in your diary.

MANAGING ASBESTOS RISKS:

Insights from HSE's Asbestos Unit


Sam Lord, HSE

Asbestos remains a prevalent issue across many industries and buildings in the UK. Proper management and removal of asbestos materials is crucial to minimize health risks. At the recent ARCA Annual General Meeting, Sam Lord from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) provided valuable insights into HSE initiatives aimed at improving asbestos safety and driving compliance.

Lord began by explaining HSE's focus on compliance, which involves adhering to regulations and driving improvement through enforcement, inspections, and stakeholder engagement. HSE utilises enforcement such as prosecutions and enforcement notices, conducts site visits, and runs communications campaigns. However, stakeholder collaboration is key. Lord dedicates one day per week to this engagement, underscoring its importance. She urged attendees to share insights so HSE can better understand industry challenges.

Updates

Several HSE Asbestos Unit updates were announced regarding licensing, waivers, statistics, and non-licensed work:

- *Remote licence application assessments are now standard. Details are submitted to HSE first, followed by video review.*
- *The ASB5 form will be revised to collect data on enclosure numbers and whether the analyst is appointed by the client or the contractor.*
- *Waivers for work on RAAC structures require evidence of safety risks like structural surveys. CAR 2012 and other regulations still apply.*
- There are currently 368 licensed contractors. In 2023/24, 800 site inspections are planned.
- *Most licensed removal involves AIB (73%), insulation (22%), other products (3%) and coatings (2%).*
- *Non-licensed AIB work was occurring when it should be licensed work. The justification for non-licensed AIB work needs to be clear. AIB should be carefully removed, which takes time, and the time needs to be considered when assessing whether it is licensed work.*

Schools Inspection Findings

A major inspection initiative examining 400+ schools found 66% effectively managed asbestos, but one-third did not, prompting enforcement. Key findings:

- *Photographs weren't consistently used in registers to show asbestos locations/ conditions. Visual aids are extremely valuable for risk management.*
- *Management plans lacked specificity. Generic plans should be avoided. Plans must be tailored and site-specific to be effective.*
- *Unclear delineation of duty holder vs. appointed person roles and insufficient training. New asbestos management training products aim to address this issue.*
- *Communication to contractors regarding licensed work, certificates of reoccupation, record keeping periods etc needs improvement. New training will also cover asbestos essentials for clients.*
- *Legacy resistance issues persist, including post-removal lagging splatter in boiler rooms. Updated boiler room guidance is expected.*



- *Registers rarely indicate whether past remediation occurred. They should note removal status, not just vague "manage" actions.*

Lord stated that HSE is undertaking another 6-month schools inspection initiative encompassing 380 schools and 20 hospitals/health trusts. Attendee feedback indicated this hadn't yet driven a surge in school asbestos removal work.

Asbestos Network Developments

Lord highlighted the value of the Asbestos Network collaborative partnership between HSE and stakeholders like ARCA. Information is now housed on the CONIAC website under the Networks section. The Network is comprised of a main forum and specialist subgroups focused on specifc areas and topics.

A major accomplishment has been publishing the new Technical Appendix on personal air monitoring, exposure and health records, developed by the Technical Working Group. This fills gaps not covered in the outdated HSG247 guidance or the Analysts' Guide. It aims to provide clarity for removal contractors on issues like monitoring methodology, exposure recording, health surveillance etc. Lord urged contractors to read the appendix and provide feedback for improvement.

Upcoming appendices in progress include guidance on skips/waste compartments, handover of enclosures for clearance, and non-enclosure asbestos removal. The Technical Working Group rigorously refines these documents through extensive group review.

FDEM has also been testing alternative polythene formulations for enclosures that are more sustainable but offer equivalent strength, adhesion, transparency etc. Initial feedback has been positive. The polythene is for enclosures only, not waste wrapping.

HSE Research Findings

Lord discussed emerging findings from HSE research observing eight licensed asbestos removal jobs. Despite HSE's presence, some lapses occurred, highlighting areas for improvement:

- *Airborne fibre levels were significantly lower than past research, showing industry improvements. But time pressure led to some deviations from guidance. Careful removal is essential, even if slower.*
- *PVA spraying inside enclosures after removal was only seen at one site but is advisable to reduce residual fibres.*
- *Equipment removed from enclosures wasn't always fully decontaminated. Smoke testing during jobs to check enclosure integrity was also rare.*
- *Analyst clearance process adherence has improved markedly. However, some analysts didn't leave enclosures requiring cleaning before continuing the clearance, contravening the Analyst's Guide.*
- *Minimum brushing times weren't always met. Analysts should actively seek to disturb fibres and generate maximum agitation. Insufficient disturbance can risk failed clearances.*
- *Reassurance air testing during dismantling was infrequent. This is advisable to confirm cleanliness post-removal.*

The report highlights areas for enhanced training and consistent compliance with current guidance. Two additional HSE reports on control measures and clearance effectiveness will be published shortly.

Upcoming HSE Asbestos Initiatives

Lord outlined some upcoming HSE asbestos initiatives:

- *A new Duty to Manage communications campaign will launch in January 2024, targeting duty holders.*
- *HSE's asbestos web content is being overhauled to improve navigation and accessibility. Distinct user journeys will be created to serve different audiences.*

Overall, Lord's presentation offered valuable insights into HSE's current asbestos focus areas, regulation, guidance development, compliance promotion and research. Key takeaways include ensuring continuing enclosure integrity throughout the job, avoiding undue time pressure, following analyst protocols, practicing consistent decontamination procedures, and collaborating with HSE to share industry knowledge and enhance asbestos safety. HSE's emphasis on stakeholder engagement underscores the importance of contractors and trade groups working jointly with regulators to improve standards and outcomes.

The Need for Continued Collaboration

Lord emphasised the significant value HSE places on collaborating with industry groups such as ARCA to improve asbestos management. The Asbestos Network and its technical subgroup channels enable constructive dialogue between regulators and contractors. HSE is reliant on industry insights to enhance the guidance framework.

Likewise, constructive feedback from contractors on new initiatives such as the Technical Appendices allows HSE to refine and improve these resources. The regulator insights into current research and compliance promotion campaigns also helps the contracting industry stay up to date on the evolving asbestos landscape.

Tackling asbestos risks requires a true partnership approach given the complexities involved. Continued collaboration and communication between HSE and asbestos contractors will remain pivotal. We hope Lord's presentation was merely just the starting point for renewed commitment to this joint endeavour from all sides.

diary dates

ARCA Regional Meetings

South-West & Wales	Tuesday 5 March 2024 at 1.30pm	Almondsbury Interchange Hotel, Bristol
Midlands	Wednesday 6 March 2024 at 1.30pm	ARCA Head Office, Stretton, Burton-on-Trent
North-West	Thursday 7 March 2024 at 1.30pm	The Pennine Manor, Huddersfield
Scotland	Tuesday 12 March at 9.00am	The Holiday Inn Express, Hamilton
North-East	Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 9.00am	The Holiday Inn, Washington
South-East	Thursday 21 March 2024 at 9.00am	The Thurrock Hotel, Essex
ARCA Remote	Thursday 28 March 2024 at 10.30am	Via Zoom

Attendance Certificate *When attending a remote member regional meeting, attendees are logged and issued with an attendance certificate. The certificate is intended to complement training records, by recording that the individual named received the information, instruction and training listed on the certificate.*

ARCA CITB Briefings

Remote CITB Funding for NVQs	Tuesday 9 January 2024 at 10.30am	Via Zoom
Remote CITB Funding for NVQs	Tuesday 6 February 2024 at 10.30am	Via Zoom
Remote CITB Funding for NVQs	Tuesday 5 March 20243 at 10.30am	Via Zoom

ARCA Gold Site Audit Award Winners

ARCA is delighted to announce the current recipients of the Gold Site Audit Award, which acknowledges their consistently high performance on site.

To gain this award asbestos removal companies need to achieve Grades A to C, with an average of at least a B Grade, on all unannounced programmed (membership) site audits, across 2 consecutive membership years.

"Huge congratulations to all our members who have achieved the award. It is a testament to the high standards these companies continuously display," commented Juliette Church, Site Audit Manager for ARCA.

2022/23
arca
GOLD
SITE AUDIT
AWARD

Congratulations to members who have already achieved the award for membership period 2021/22 and 2022/23

- *Addison Green Ltd*
- *Alliance Asbestos Services Ltd*
- *Allweather Roofing & Construction Ltd*
- *Amianto Services Ltd*
- *Amicus Environmental Ltd*
- *Armac Environmental*
- *Ashbee Solutions Ltd*
- *Aspect Contracts Ltd*
- *Bilfinger UK Ltd*
- *BLS Asbestos*
- *Calder Insulations Limited*
- *Carymar Construction Services Ltd*
- *City Building (Glasgow) LLP*
- *Clifford Devlin Ltd*
- *Close Brothers Rail Limited*
- *Countrywide Environmental Services Ltd*
- *Decontaminate (UK) Ltd*
- *E4 (Environmental) Ltd*
- *Econ Group Ltd*
- *EM1 Ltd*
- *Enviraz (Scotland) Ltd*
- *Erith Contractors Ltd*
- *European Asbestos Service Ltd*
- *Furn Contracts Ltd*
- *H B Insulations (Notts) Ltd*
- *Hereford Asbestos Services Ltd*
- *Horizon Environmental Ltd*
- *LAR Ltd*
- *Lawson Environmental Limited*
- *M&D Group Midlands Ltd*
- *McGee Environmental Services Ltd*
- *R&F Insulation Limited*
- *Reigart Contracts*
- *Reliable Environmental Ltd*
- *Roberts Environmental Services Ltd*
- *Swindon Borough Council*
- *Thompson Asbestos Services*

as of 29th September 2023



New research into asbestos in public buildings shows financial costs to UK economy and workforce, and benefits of removal

New research, commissioned by national asbestos-related cancer charity, Mesothelioma UK, has revealed the true cost to the UK economy of asbestos in public buildings.

The Cost Benefit Analysis study has revealed that asbestos-related diseases, such as mesothelioma and lung cancer amongst former school and hospital workers, costs the UK economy almost £1.2 billion per year.

The study goes on to show that the total cost to the public finances of asbestos-related diseases amongst former schools and hospital workers is over £260 million per year.

The research also concludes that the benefits of a reduced burden of asbestos-related diseases, if asbestos were removed from schools and hospitals over a 19-year period, would be around £11 billion to the UK economy and £3.5 billion to the public finances (over 50 years).

Asbestos is often understood as a legacy of our industrial past; yet 20 years on from the ban on the use of asbestos in the UK, many buildings including hospitals and schools still contain this harmful substance which, if disturbed, can become airborne and inhaled. Thousands of people continue to die from unnecessary exposure to asbestos every year. Worryingly, death rates for female teachers and nurses are rising and are significantly higher than for the general population.

Following an inquiry about asbestos in buildings, the Work and Pensions Select Committee recommended that the UK put in place a national plan to remove all asbestos from buildings over the next 40 years.

The study has shown that the benefits of removing asbestos, in terms of the lower incidence of mesothelioma and lung cancer amongst former school and hospital workers, covers at least the



Asbestos removal from public buildings would benefit UK economy by £11 billion over 50 years

additional costs of removing asbestos quickly, over 10 years.

The study has estimated the costs and benefits of removing all asbestos-containing buildings from the public estate in the UK. The analysis involved comparing the cost of demolishing and replacing all buildings on the public estate containing asbestos with the benefits - in terms of increased population health, reduced NHS costs and increased productivity.

A copy of the full study can be downloaded from ***www.mesothelioma.uk.com***

The research was conducted by Landman Economics, a UK specialist consultancy in quantitative analysis and economic modelling. The study was supported by Asbestos Testing and Consultancy Association (ATaC), Asbestos Removal Contractors Association (ARCA), National Education Union (NEU), UNISON public service union, Association of British Insurers (ABI), Respublica, and Airtight on Asbestos.

Asbestos is the single greatest cause of work-related deaths in the UK each year, as more than 5,000 people under the age of 75 die from asbestos-related cancers. More than half of those deaths are from mesothelioma, a cancer, most commonly of the lungs or abdomen, for which there is no cure. Up to 60 per cent of patients die in the first year after diagnosis, and just over five in 100 survive their mesothelioma for five years or more.

Sir Stephen Timms, MP for East Ham, and Chair of the Work and Pensions Select Committee, recently spoke on a panel at the Labour Party's Annual Conference about the dangers of asbestos, and the need for a Government plan to remove it. Sir Stephen commented: "This report provides important new evidence to support our Work and Pensions Select Committee recommendation for a national plan to remove asbestos from British workplaces over the next 40 years, and to create a central register of all asbestos in non-domestic buildings."

Mesothelioma patient and asbestos removal campaigner, Helen Bone, said: "It's not just men who've worked in industry who are affected by the asbestos legacy we have in this country now; it's nurses, doctors and teachers. The buildings that contain asbestos thought to be safe such as hospitals and schools, are now falling into disrepair and we have a responsibility to protect the people in them and all of the public buildings in this country. More must be said, more must be actioned, to keep future generations safe from this dangerous substance."

Liz Darlison, Chief Executive of Mesothelioma UK commented: "Mesothelioma UK have seen a change in the exposure of those diagnosed with mesothelioma. Increasingly, we are seeing far more subtle environmental exposure, with people that have worked as teachers, doctors and nurses. It's a national disgrace that we continue to have the highest incidence of mesothelioma in the world and it is in everyone's interest to do something significant to change the current approach to managing asbestos."

"Mesothelioma UK will continue to gather the evidence to make the case for change. We owe it to all those people that we have met and for whom we've cared; we owe it future generations to do all we can. Mesothelioma can be prevented - this has to stop!"

About Mesothelioma UK:

Mesothelioma UK is a national resource centre dedicated to providing specialist mesothelioma information, support and improved care and treatment for all UK mesothelioma patients, their carers and health care professionals. The centre promotes the development of Specialist Mesothelioma Nursing practice and funds over 30 specialist nursing posts around the UK.

Ready to gain an asbestos surveyor or analyst qualification . . .

What's the best option for you?

OPTION 1

CENTRE-BASED TRAINING & EXAM DAY

If you have the prior knowledge of all areas in the syllabus, you could choose to spend three consecutive days at an ATaC centre.

OPTION 2

REMOTE TRAINING & CENTRE-BASED EXAM DAY

This option provides all the theoretical knowledge required via one day of remote training over three consecutive weeks, followed by a centre-based exam day.

OPTION 3

EXAM ONLY DAY CENTRE-BASED

If you have extensive knowledge of surveying buildings and experience of carrying out all types of asbestos surveys you could choose an exam only day.

Information on all these options is available at **www.atac.org.uk**



Transforming Training Methods for Success:

Lucion's Journey with ATaC's RSPH Courses

Chris Parr, Quality & Assurance Director, Lucion Group

We caught up with Chris Parr at Lucion Services, to discuss their training requirements for surveyor and analyst courses. In this article, Chris explains how Lucion recognised that traditional training methods were not effectively catering to the diverse learning styles of their workforce. Seeking a more comprehensive approach, Lucion collaborated with ATaC (Asbestos Testing and Consultancy Association) and found great success, as Chris describes:

Training Methods

In late 2021 we found that traditional training methods didn't suit the varied learning styles of our trainees. As a proud, inclusive employer of a diverse workforce, it is important that we support our community and in-house classroom training. The existing exam assessment was not providing the support we desired.

We began looking for an alternative, and through our close relationship with ATaC, we realised they were also looking for alternative provision of RSPH courses, particularly the prospect of delivering a weekly training day. This solution seemed ideal to Lucion – providing focused, practical learning over several weeks.

An easy, efficient, and responsive system

Since its introduction in June, we have found the booking portal easy to use and the booking process simple. The training team gets in touch quickly to confirm the places we have booked, keeping the process efficient. If we have needed to change any of our bookings, ATaC has been very accommodating.

Overall, we have found dealing with ATaC about the provision of the RSPH Analyst and Surveyor Level 3 qualifications over the past 18 months straightforward and rewarding; our technicians have benefitted from the weekly modular approach, which, though delivered online, is not 'e-Learning' and maintains the interaction between a tutor and the delegates.

Combining online support with onsite mentors

Additional site-based learning with our trainees continues to be guided by our in-house mentors, which works extremely well and prepares the individual for attendance at one of ATaC's assessment centres for the practical and written exams. Feedback from our newly authorised trainees has been positive and the format of vocational learning and modular learning has worked well.

The added aspect of the RSPH qualifications being Ofqual registered also provides us with additional confidence in the validity of the course content and assessment standards. The turnaround time from exam to receipt of results has impressed us; we're able to act quickly, ensure all audits are in place and allow the newly authorised team member the independence to begin completing authorised work, which in turn builds their confidence and value within our team.

National recognition

We're also extremely proud to have been recognised by ATaC. At the recent AGM, Lucion was awarded the ATaC National Training Award, it was a tremendous surprise and we're pleased to have been recognised for the results achieved by our team members over the past year.

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ATaC UPDATE -

HSG248's Approach to Bulk Analysis of Non-Asbestos Detected Sampling

ATaC continues to keep members updated on the Health and Safety Executive's evolving approach to bulk analysis of non-asbestos detected (NAD) sampling. Since our last update on September 25th, ATaC has been actively discussing members' concerns with key stakeholders. We remain committed to ensuring your voices are heard as these changes unfold.

Recent Developments

On July 28th, Darren Evans of AEC on behalf of ATaC attended a UKAS Technical Advisory Committee workshop to represent members' interests regarding proposed changes to NAD sampling guidance.

Key discussions focused on the methodology for categorising NAD materials, resulting in agreed actions around adjusting minimum examination times. Category A and B samples will now have reduced times, easing the burden on lab productivity.

This positive outcome shows a willingness to address industry concerns. By attending these discussions, ATaC continues to advocate for members and provide crucial feedback to shape more workable NAD sampling requirements.

Remaining Challenges

There are still concerns regarding the HSE's proposed 10-minute inspection time and 2-point allocation for certain category B materials such as fibre-cement and calcium silicate boards. ATaC and other stakeholders argue, when these products contain asbestos, the fibres are readily visible. These products also comprise a large share of NAD analysis requested by clients. Extended inspection wasting resources on straightforward samples.

Simpler analysis would ease the burden on labs while still reliably detecting asbestos. By continuing to press for sensible categorisation, ATaC advocates for feasible standards that serve both labs and clients.

A Path Forward

The classification of certain materials under category B remains unresolved, so the HSE has extended the timeline for industry feedback on the new NAD proposal. An additional workshop will allow for further discussion.

Even as requirements continue to evolve, ATaC remains dedicated to representing members' interests. Your perspectives inform our ongoing advocacy efforts. Please contact Robert Southall at ***robert.southall@arca.org.uk*** if you have any questions or require further information.

By keeping members informed and conveying your concerns, ATaC continues working to shape feasible standards that serve our industry. We appreciate your engagement and assistance in this process.



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13 September 2023 · https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tees-66798691

Middlesbrough builders merchant fined £400k over asbestos lapses

A national builders' merchant has been ordered to pay a £400,000 fine for failing to protect staff and visitors from asbestos.

Environmental health officers visited Jewson in North Ormesby in October 2019 after concerns were raised.

Middlesbrough Council said a number of damaged asbestos-containing materials were found at the site in Brewsdale Road where fibres had been released.

Stark Building Materials, which owns Jewson, apologised "to all concerned".

Teesside Crown Court heard further investigations revealed that between 2004 and 2019, despite several surveys being carried out, there had been a significant failure to properly inspect and manage asbestos at the premises.

Health risks associated with asbestos mean employers are required by law to carry out surveys which identify, label, remove or manage the product.

Judith Hedgley, Middlesbrough Council's head of public protection, said: "If asbestos-containing materials become damaged they can release tiny fibres, which if breathed in or swallowed can lead to serious and potentially fatal illnesses, which can take years to develop."

"The management of the Jewson site in Middlesbrough had, over a prolonged period, failed in their responsibility to protect their workers and visitors from the risks associated with exposure to asbestos," she added.

Stark Building pleaded guilty on Jewson's behalf to a charge of failing to protect the health and safety of employees at the premises, members of the public and contract workers by failing to effectively manage asbestos.

It was also ordered to pay £9,664 towards the council's costs.

Stark Building said a new system for managing asbestos in the workplace - involving a comprehensive digital tracking and monitoring process - had been put in place following the events four years ago.

A spokesperson for the company said: "We accept the ruling of the court and the fine received and apologise again to all concerned.

"Earlier this year, we conducted a further review of our processes and procedures across our estate - and are confident that the solutions put in place are now as robust as they should be."

Middlesbrough Council said anyone who had worked at the site or visited it and was concerned about asbestos could contact officers for advice.



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2 October 2023 https://www.creditoncourier.co.uk/news/crediton-dairy-fined-ps300000-for-asbestos-offences-641752

Crediton Dairy fined £300,000 for asbestos offences



A DAIRY has been fined £300,000 for failing to remove asbestos lagging in its factory.

Crediton Dairy Ltd, of Church Lane, Crediton, admitted two charges under the Health and Safety at Work Act of failing to discharge its duty under the Control of Asbestos regulations.

Exeter Magistrates Court was told the offences related to an 18-day period in the summer of 2019.

District Judge Stuart Smith fined the company £300,000 and also ordered it to pay £3,215.25 in costs and statutory surcharge.

The offences which the company pleaded guilty to were both brought under the 2012 Control of Asbestos Regulations and the Health and Safety Act.

The first charge was that "between July 5 and 23, 2019, being an employer, the dairy had failed to discharge the duty to which you were subject by regulations to prevent or, where this was not reasonably practicable, reduce to the lowest level reasonably practicable the spread of asbestos from any place where work under the employer's control was carried out."

The second charge specified that, "being an employer who undertakes work with asbestos, they failed to discharge the duty to which you were subject by virtue of The Control of Asbestos Regulations in that waste asbestos was not stored and distributed in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974."

A specialist engineering company, RWH and Sons, which is registered at an office in Exeter but based in Cranmere Road, Okehampton, admitted four offences under the same regulations and were fined £2,660 with £3,290.19 costs.

They pleaded guilty to working on asbestos without the appropriate licence, failing to provide protective clothing for two workers, failing to minimise risks, and not storing waste asbestos correctly.

Barristers representing both companies said there had been no deliberate breaches of the regulations and the work has now been carried out satisfactorily.

Details from improvement notices published by the HSE in August and September 2019 showed that the problem was with unintentional release of asbestos from lagging in the dairy's process area.

The order required action to prevent asbestos being blown or extracted to other working areas.

In a statement a spokesperson for Crediton Dairy said: "Crediton Dairy has always taken health and safety very seriously and we have taken a consistent and long-term approach to ensuring that we have in place high standards, systems and controls across our entire operation.

"In relation to the HSE's investigation we have pleaded guilty to two charges associated with the accidental release of asbestos at our site as a result of an incident that took place more than four years ago in 2019.

"This was a highly regrettable and isolated incident relating to the removal and disposal of a small section of redundant pipework which contained some asbestos insulation.

"On becoming aware of this we responded swiftly to engage experienced asbestos contractors who undertook testing to understand the extent of any contamination and advised on the necessary steps to be undertaken which we immediately followed in full in 2019.

"We have also co-operated fully with the HSE investigation and put in place further measures to ensure that such an incident does not happen in the future."

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18 October 2023 https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-67144071

Golcar: Asbestos-riddled retirement complex to be rebuilt



Proposed new Sycamore Grange. BTP Architects/Kirklees Council.

A £12m scheme to demolish and rebuild a Huddersfield retirement home riddled with asbestos has been approved.

A report revealed that Sycamore Grange in Golcar posed a "significant health and safety risk" to those living there.

Asbestos insulating board was found in the communal corridors and lounge, with legionella samples in the pipework.

Tenants are entitled to £8,000 in compensation for losing their homes, the Local Democracy Reporting Service said.

Those living there have been moving out since January, with the complex set to be empty by March 2024.

Kirklees Council has projected it will cost up to £300,000 to relocate residents, with the local authority also losing about £142,000 in rent and council tax due to people moving out.

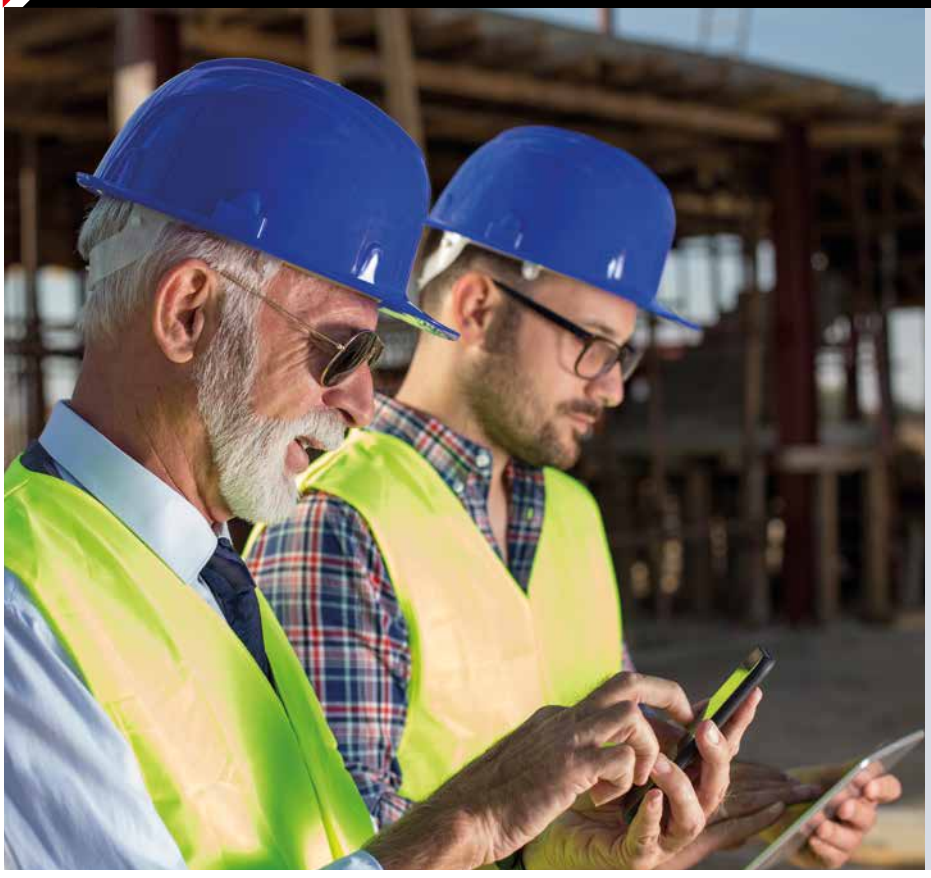
Construction of the new complex is anticipated to begin in September 2024, with the new site featuring 41 apartments when complete.

The move comes despite the recent announcement Kirklees Council needed to reduce its spending by £47.8m in next year's budget, warning some services would be lost.

Speaking at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday, the leader of the council described the rebuild as "excellent news".

"Forty-one retirement apartments and do you know, despite things that are going on, this council are very proactive at trying to get things done and I just think it's really encouraging that we're actually able to go ahead with this," councillor Cathy Scott said.

A planning application for the new complex is expected to be submitted in November.



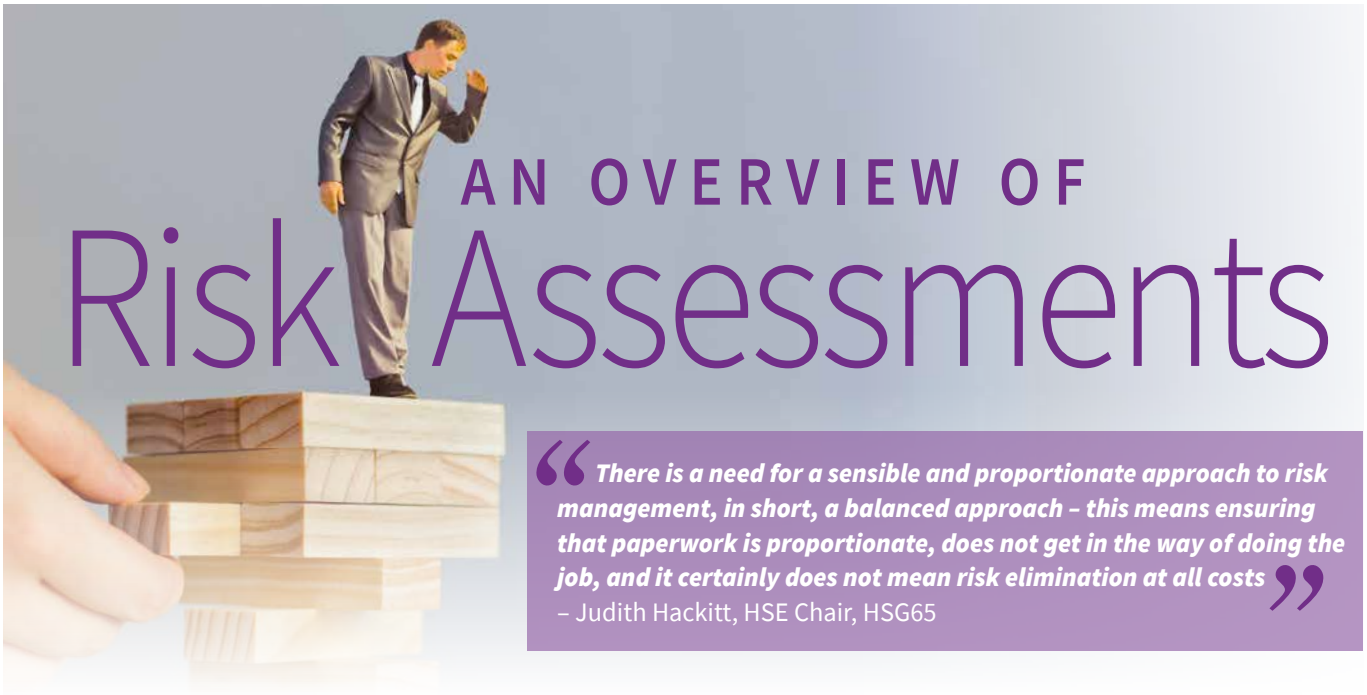
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AN OVERVIEW OF Risk Assessments

> ***There is a need for a sensible and proportionate approach to risk management, in short, a balanced approach – this means ensuring that paperwork is proportionate, does not get in the way of doing the job, and it certainly does not mean risk elimination at all costs***
> – Judith Hackitt, HSE Chair, HSG65

While your risk assessments, planning, information, training and supervision of work need to be both suitable and sufficient, it is not the case that employers must eliminate risk at all costs. The risk assessment should identify a reasonable and proportionate approach to working safely.

What are 'hazards' and 'risks'?

A 'hazard' is described as the potential to cause harm, while a 'risk' is the likelihood that the hazard will cause harm. For example, two men are working at height using identical ladders, the hazard of falling off is the same for both men. However, one ladder is tied at the top and the other is not, therefore the risk of falling from the untied ladder is higher.

What the law says

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations require all employers, to assess the risks to the health and safety of their employees and anyone else who may be affected by their work activities. This is to identify necessary preventive and protective measures.

Employers with five or more employees must record the significant findings of the risk assessment and then arrange to adopt the health and safety measures that follow on from this assessment.

Employers are required to provide appropriate health surveillance where the risk assessment shows it is necessary, together with such training to ensure that employees can do their jobs without risk. They must be given appropriate information so that they understand health and safety matters.

A health and safety risk assessment is the systematic identification of the hazards that may exist in a workplace, or in the carrying out of a task within that workplace, and the evaluation of the risks associated with those hazards.

The law states that a risk assessment must be 'suitable and sufficient', i.e., it should show that:

- a proper check was made
- you asked who might be affected
- you dealt with all the obvious significant risks, considering the number of people who could be involved
- the precautions are reasonable, and the remaining risk is low
- you involved your workers or their representatives in the process

Risk Assessment Method

The level of detail in a risk assessment should be proportionate to the risk and appropriate to the nature of the work. Insignificant risks can usually be ignored, as can risks arising from routine activities associated with life in general, unless the work activity compounds or significantly alters those risks.

Your risk assessment should include only what you could reasonably be expected to know - you are not expected to anticipate unforeseeable risks

1. Describe each task which requires a risk assessment
2. Identify hazards in each task
3. Assess the likelihood and severity of possible resulting injury from each task
4. Identify control measures for each hazard, including necessary protective clothing and equipment
5. Identify responsibilities for carrying out the control measures
6. Identify any training and supervision issues

Everyone employed in carrying out the task should be made aware of the hazards and the control measures to be adopted.

Significant hazards and risks are defined by the HSE as those which will require the contractor to devote extra resources to their management. In other words, hazards such as trailing cables, which every contractor manages every day, do not fall within the category of significant risks.

Risks, which are significant, are those that are not trivial in nature and can create a real risk to health and safety which any reasonable person would appreciate and would take steps to guard against. What can be considered as "insignificant" will vary from site to site and activity to activity depending on specific circumstances.

The significant findings of the risk assessment need to be recorded. A simple statement as to what the risk is and what control measures are required to reduce the risk to an acceptable level and as low as reasonably practicable is all that is normally required.

Some hazards, risks and relevant controls might be common to much of the work licensed contractors do. HSE guidance acknowledges that a general risk assessment of these can be useful. In practice, such a general risk assessment would be reflected in standard procedures (SOP) and policies. There is no requirement to replicate SOP content within a site-specific Risk Assessment / Plan of Work, although some record that existing SOP's or policies have been assessed as suitable for controlling specific risks identified should be included.

Risk ratings and probability calculations, also known as quantitative risk assessments, normally shown as matrices where the level of hazard and risk are multiplied to give a rating are not needed. They would only be used as a guide to prioritise the implementation of control measures which is usually not relevant for licensed works.

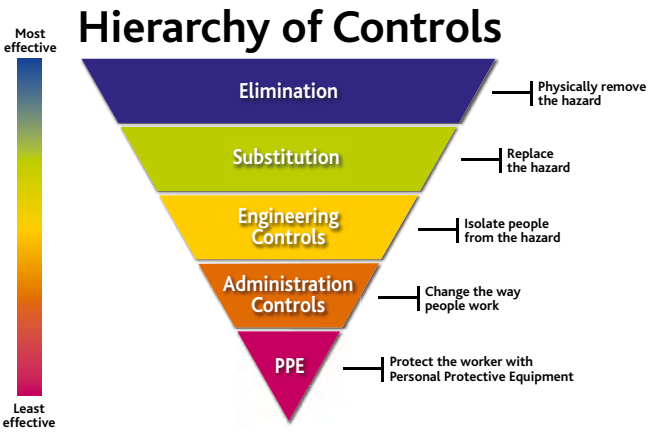
Hierarchy of Controls

Risks should be reduced to the lowest reasonably practicable level by taking preventative measures, in order of priority.

The Hierarchy of Controls sets out an ideal order to follow when planning to reduce risk from construction activities - consider the headings in the order shown, do not simply jump to the easiest control measure to implement.

The Hierarchy of Controls, or risk hierarchy, is a system used in workplace environments to minimise or eliminate exposure to hazards. It is a widely accepted system promoted by HSE.

The Hierarchy of Controls is often represented by a triangular diagram that depicts the different controls in order of how effective they might be in controlling risk (as shown).



As you move further down the pyramid, the control measures become less effective. Once you have exhausted the 'engineering' options, you are then becoming much more dependent on human behaviours to reduce the risk.

The levels in the risk hierarchy of control measures are, in order of decreasing effectiveness:

- **Elimination** - *Redesign the job so that the hazard is removed or eliminated.* Physical removal of the hazard - this is the most effective hazard control.

For example, if employees must work high above the ground, the hazard can be eliminated by moving the piece they are working on to ground level to eliminate the need to work at height.

- **Substitution** – This is the second most effective hazard control and *involves replacing the material or process with a less hazardous one* (similar to elimination).

For example, use a small MEWP to access work at height instead of step ladders or replacing lead-based paint with titanium white. Care should be taken to ensure the alternative is safer than the original.

- **Engineering controls** - These do not eliminate hazards, but rather *isolate people from hazards.*

Use work equipment or other measures to prevent falls where you cannot avoid working at height. Install or use additional machinery such as local exhaust ventilation to control risks from dust or fume. Separate the hazard from operators by methods such as enclosing or guarding dangerous items of machinery/equipment. Give priority to measures which protect collectively over individual measures. Capital costs of engineered controls tend to be higher than less effective controls in the hierarchy, however they might reduce future costs.

- **Administrative controls** - These are changes to the way people work and are all about identifying and implementing the procedures you need to work safely.

For example: reducing the time workers are exposed to hazards (e.g., by job rotation); prohibiting use of mobile phones in hazardous areas; increasing safety signage, procedure changes, employee training and performing risk assessments.

Administrative controls do not remove hazards but intend to limit or prevent people's exposure to the hazards. A simple example would be completing road construction at night when fewer people are driving. Another administrative control would be performing a daily check on plant e.g., forklifts, to ensure they are in good working order.

- **Personal protective equipment** - Only after all the previous measures have been tried and found ineffective in controlling risks to a reasonably practicable level, must personal protective equipment (PPE) be used.

For example, where you cannot eliminate the risk of a fall, use work equipment or other measures to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall (should one occur). If chosen, PPE should be selected and fitted by the person who uses it. Workers must be trained in the function and limitation of each item of PPE. Personal protective equipment (PPE) includes gloves, respirators, hard hats, safety glasses, high-visibility clothing, and safety footwear.

PPE is the least effective means of controlling hazards because of the high potential for damage to render PPE ineffective. Additionally, some PPE, such as respirators, increase physiological effort to complete a task. Therefore, you may need to perform feasibility reviews and/or occupational health assessments to ensure workers can use the PPE without risking their health.

It is not necessary to implement every measure. For example, in the case of a fully boarded and guarded scaffold, workers would not be expected to wear personal fall-arrest equipment.

Reference:
https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm


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It's key to understand that even if they are wrongfully accused, their assets are still at risk during a court proceeding. D&O insurance covers legal fees, settlements, and other associated costs depending on the policy you agree with your insurance broker.

Five reasons D&O insurance is strongly recommended:

1. *Protection for Directors and Officers*

D&O insurance provides financial protection for individuals serving as directors and officers, as well as the organisation itself, in case they are sued for alleged wrongful acts in the course of their managerial duties.

2. *Recruitment and retention*

Knowing that there is liability protection in place can make it easier to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve on boards or as officers. Without such protection, individuals may be reluctant to take on these roles due to personal liability concerns.

3. *Risk mitigation*

D&O insurance helps mitigate the financial risks associated with legal claims and lawsuits related to corporate decisions and actions. This can help protect the personal assets of directors and officers.

4. *Investor and stakeholder confidence*

D&O insurance can inspire confidence among investors, shareholders, and stakeholders as it shows that your company is taking steps to manage potential liability risks and protect the interests of its leadership.

5. *Legal and regulatory scrutiny*

Directors and officers can face legal and regulatory scrutiny for a wide range of issues, including corporate governance, financial disclosures, and compliance with laws and regulations. D&O insurance can help you cover the costs of legal defence and potential settlements or judgments.

The specific needs and coverage requirements can vary based on the organisation's structure, industry, and individual circumstances, so it's advisable to consult with an insurance professional to determine the appropriate level of coverage.

Get in touch with our Asbestos Insurance Specialist, John Madden, to discuss your business's insurance and risk management requirements regarding D&O insurance:

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Understanding re-occupation testing

What clients need to know

before they can move back in

If you are a property owner/ manager who may have licensed asbestos removal work undertaken at your premises, or are involved in licensed asbestos removal works, you need to understand the re-occupation process. That is what needs to happen before the building, or area where the removal took place, can be allowed to be re-occupied. The 4-stage re-occupation test is a legal requirement as detailed in the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (CAR 2012).

When licensed asbestos removal work is planned by both the end-client and the Licensed Asbestos Removal Contractor (LARC), sufficient time has to be allowed to complete the re-occupation test. This time is in addition to the time taken for actually removing the asbestos containing material(s) and can typically range from a few hours to 2-3 days depending on the complexity of the area affected. Planning this time is critical as delays may hold up other works and other contractors.

What is a 4-stage re-occupation test?

This is a series of tests carried out after licensed asbestos removal and before the affected area is handed back to the client for re-occupation. (Licensed asbestos removal is usually undertaken inside a sealed enclosure).

Its purpose is to ensure all proposed asbestos removal work has been carried out as per the pre-agreed Plan of Works, and that the area is clean, dry and dust free, as far as is reasonably practicable, and therefore fit for re-occupation.

Why do this test?

The 4-stage re-occupation test is a legal requirement as detailed in the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (CAR 2012) Regulation 17.

Who can conduct the test?

The test can only be undertaken by a United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accredited testing laboratory accredited to ISO 17025. This is an explicit legal requirement by virtue of Regulation 20, CAR 2012. To avoid any perceived conflict of interest, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) strongly recommend that the analyst for site clearance certification is independently sourced and employed by the building owner or occupier (i.e. building client) in control of the premises.

What is the process for a 4-stage re-occupation test?

Before starting the 4-stage re-occupation test a signed handover form should be obtained by the analyst from the licensed contractor confirming that the work area/enclosure has been thoroughly cleaned and the area has been inspected and is visually clean. After signing and dating the handover form the analyst can begin the test.

As the name suggests there are four separate tests / stages which are carried out by a qualified analyst. These are:

Stage 1 - Preliminary check of site condition and job completeness

- *Confirm scope of work*
- *Obtain or prepare diagram showing areas requiring clearance*
  - *Decontamination Unit*
  - *Enclosure, surrounding areas, waste and transit routes*
  - *Integrity of enclosure*
  - *Interior of enclosure using viewing panels / CCTV*

Estimate time thorough visual inspection will take and record it on Certificate for Reoccupation (CfR)

When the analyst carrying out the test is happy that it has met the criteria for Stage 1 he/she will move onto Stage 2.

Stage 2 - A thorough visual inspection

This entails:

- *A thorough visual inspection inside the enclosure*
- *Check*
  - *The completeness of the removal of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM's) form the underlying surfaces*
  - *For any visible debris including in the airlock and baglock (all compartments)*
  - *For the presence of settled dust on all surfaces within the enclosure*
- *Ensuring the enclosure is dry as far as is reasonably practicable*

The time spent on this stage will depend on the size and complexity of the enclosure, and in some cases might require more than one analyst to carry out the inspection.

Stage 3 - Clearance air monitoring

Air sampling will be conducted inside the enclosure to:

- *Disturb surfaces at the start of air sampling*
  - *By sweeping floors with a long handled brush*
  - *By brushing other surfaces using a short handled brush*
  - *Brush sweep for at least 1½ minutes per sample*
- *All air sample results must be <0.010 fibres/cm^3*

All surfaces are brushed vigorously for a minimum of 1½ minutes per sampling location. When the air test has been carried out and the fibre concentration deemed to be less than 0.010 fibres/cm^3 the enclosure can be dismantled.



Stage 4 - Final assessment post-enclosure / work area dismantling

After the enclosure/work area has been carefully removed the analyst will undertake the final assessment:

- *Visually inspect where the enclosure was located **
- *Reinspect waste and transit routes for asbestos debris*

** If during this inspection any residual asbestos is identified from the removal works the enclosure may have to be re-built and the asbestos residue removed.*

What is supplied to state that re-occupation is approved?

A re-occupation certificate will be issued by the analyst to both the Licensed Asbestos Removal Contractor and the end-client. Photographic evidence of each stage should be provided to support this final re-occupation certification.

The 4-stage re-occupation test is described in 'The Analysts' Guide' HSG 248 Second Edition available at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg248.htm

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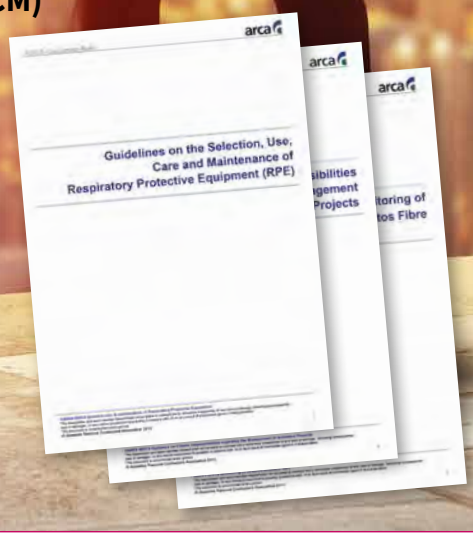
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Searching for Guidance?

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There are currently 12 Guidance Notes available on a variety of asbestos related subjects.

- **Guidance for Asbestos Licence Renewal**
- **Other Trades and Live Enclosures**
- **Personal Air Monitoring**
- **Monitoring of Airborne Asbestos Fibre**
- **Air Management in Asbestos Enclosures**
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- **Encapsulation of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM)**
- **Selection of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for work with Asbestos**
- **Selection, Use, Care and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE)**



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24-hour cycle challenge fundraisers celebrate after raising £2,000 for Mesothelioma UK

A TEAM of fundraisers cycled through the day and night covering more than 450 miles virtually to raise money to support people living with asbestos cancer.

Last Thursday, the team from asbestos management consultancy Acorn Analytical Services started their challenge taking it in turns to complete legs on an indoor exercise bike at their office in Northampton's Moulton Park. The challenge ended at noon on Friday – more than 450 miles later and with £2,000 raised to support the work of national charity Mesothelioma UK.

Director Ian Stone said: "We could not be prouder of the team who were absolutely incredible throughout.

"Even in the early hours of the morning when things got really tough, they just kept going, showing the strength of spirit and determination which is at the heart of our team.

"The work of Mesothelioma UK is a cause close to all our hearts and we are thrilled to have raised £2,000 to support their vital work, with money still coming in. More than 2,700 people are diagnosed with mesothelioma in the UK every year as a direct result of exposure to asbestos fibres. We know how much this money means to the charity and to everyone affected by this devastating disease."

Business Development Executive, Max Wright, was one of the team who cycled through the night. Speaking as the cycle ended on Friday, he said: "We're all exhausted – the legs are certainly feeling it - but we did it and we're over the moon with the amount we raised on behalf of Mesothelioma UK."



Jody Thomas, Dan Crask and Max Wright who all took turns to cycle through the night.

For more information about the challenge, or to donate, visit their website at **www.justgiving.com/page/acorn-analytical24hour-1690537890484**



Don't forget to open your E-Newsletter!

ARCA members can keep up-to-date with news through our E-Newsletter.

Every month receive association news, industry updates, guidance and event news via email.

Don't miss out on receiving this valuable communication tool ... look out for the December 2023 E-Newsletter.

If you are a member and do not receive an E-Newsletter but would like to, please contact us via info@arca.org.uk.

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WINNERS 2023

arca GOLD TRAINING AWARD

ARCA is pleased to announce the member companies that have achieved the Gold Training Award for 2022/2023.

Congratulations to the 43 member companies who achieved this award and to the candidates for achieving the high average scores required.

"We are still seeing challenging times in the industry, so it's great to see so many of our members gain the ARCA Gold Training Award this year," commented Satish Patel, Training Manager of ARCA.

"We are proud to have had another successful year delivering centre-based training courses and remote courses, all of which are well supported by members. Also, I am proud to have received such positive feedback on the content and delivery of our courses."

This award acknowledges the companies that have trained over eight operatives and/or supervisors with ARCA during the twelve-month period and the candidates who achieved an average score of 92.5% or above.

These members are now able to use the ARCA Gold Training Award 2023 logo, recognising their achievement.

ARCA Gold Training Award Winners for 2022/2023

- *Addison Green Ltd*
- *AIB Solutions Limited*
- *Allan Dyson Asbestos Services Limited*
- *Alltask Ltd*
- *Arco Environmental Ltd*
- *ARCS Environmental Limited*
- *Asbestech Limited*
- *Aspect Contracts Ltd*
- *Axiom Building Solutions Ltd*
- *Blue A Ltd*
- *Brown and Mason Group Limited*
- *Cablesheer (Asbestos) Ltd*
- *Carymar Construction Services Ltd*
- *City Building (Glasgow) LLP*
- *Clifford Devlin Ltd*
- *Core Environmental Services Ltd*
- *Decontaminate (UK) Ltd*
- *DKF Recruitment Ltd*
- *E4 (Environmental) Ltd*
- *Econ Group Ltd*
- *Economic Insulations (Portsmouth) Ltd*
- *ECT Environmental Ltd*
- *Enviraz (Scotland) Ltd*
- *Environmental Asbestos Solutions Ltd*
- *Erith Contractors Limited*
- *European Asbestos Services Ltd*
- *Horizon Environmental Ltd*
- *Jackson Environmental Ltd*
- *KDC Veolia Decommissioning Services UK Ltd*
- *Kershaw Contracting Services Ltd*
- *LAR Ltd*
- *M & G Services Ltd*
- *Maylarch Environmental Limited*
- *MIC Group Limited*
- *Pier Contractors Limited*
- *Quality Asbestos Services Limited*
- *RH Insulation Services Limited*
- *Rilmac Insulation Limited*
- *SXD Environmental Services Ltd*
- *TES Environmental Services Ltd*
- *Thompsons Asbestos Services Ltd*
- *Environmental & Asbestos Solutions Ltd*
- *Woods Building Services Ltd*

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"The team at SMH are always on hand to deliver no matter what or where our request is. We would like to thank them for their excellent service, prompt response, and quick delivery as we look forward to many more years trading together."

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OPERATIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023

ARCA was pleased to announce ten winners of the Ross Turner Memorial Award for 'Operative of the Year 2022/2023' at the Annual General Meeting in October.

Congratulations to:

***Damien Makemson** of Environmental Asbestos Solutions Ltd*
***Danny Crane** of Decontaminate (UK) Ltd*
***Gary Day** of LAR Ltd*
***James Lavis** of Maylarch Environmental Limited*
***Maciej Nowicki** of McGee Environmental Services Ltd*
***Mark Subham** of Rhodar Industrial Services Ltd*
***Paul John Elliott** of AIB Solutions Limited*
***Perry Robinson** of LAR Ltd*
***Ryan Stockford** of Maylarch Environmental Limited*
***Steven McCamley** of Carymar Construction Services Ltd*

"This award is in recognition of outstanding performance, as they scored 100% in their refresher training and in the same year gained a Level 2 NVQ competency qualification," commented Satish Patel, Training Manager at ARCA.

Congratulations to all the winners

SUPERVISORS OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023

ARCA was pleased to announce the winners of the Roy Brent Memorial Award for 'Supervisor of the Year 2022/2023' at the Annual General Meeting in October.

Congratulations to Lee Jackson of Asbestech Limited and Barry Dougan of Enviraz (Scotland) Ltd.



Phil Neville collected on behalf of Lee Jackson of Asbestech Limited



Tony Donnely collected on behalf of Barry Dougan of Enviraz (Scotland) Limited

"Both winners achieved 100% in their refresher training and gained a Level 3 NVQ competency qualification in the last two years. An outstanding testament to both the winners," commented Satish Patel, Training Manager at ARCA.

"After the recent challenging times, it is great to see so many NVQs being undertaken, and competency proven."

NVQ600

ARCA Celebrates 600th NVQ Milestone in Asbestos Industry Training

We are delighted to share that we recently issued our 600th NVQ certificate for asbestos supervisors and operatives.

Our commitment to providing individuals with the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary for their roles is at the core of what we do. The awarding of our 600th NVQ certificate demonstrates our members' commitment to promoting excellence in the asbestos industry. It also shows our members' dedication to ensuring asbestos removal projects are staffed by highly skilled professionals.

In the words of our Training & Qualifications Manager, Satish Patel, "This milestone underscores the importance of NVQs in verifying the competence of individuals in their respective fields. Not only do the qualifications signify individuals' readiness for the responsibilities of their role, but they also play a critical role in meeting the prerequisites for obtaining a CSCS Card, especially when working on large construction sites. An NVQ is one of the fundamental requirements for obtaining this essential card, which further emphasizes its significance in the construction industry."

We encourage you to visit the ARCA website at **www.arca.org.uk/qualifications** to learn more about NVQ qualifications and how attaining them can help advance your asbestos removal career. The ARCA site provides detailed information on the various NVQ levels available and how the qualifications can improve your skills and job prospects.



ARCA Training Certificate Checker



Did you know that you can validate copies of ARCA training certificates using an online Certificate Checker? Verification is quick and easy using this online tool.

The Certificate Checker is available to ARCA members, non-members, and individuals, who would like to check the authenticity of an asbestos removal operative, supervisor or manager's ARCA training certificate.

Certain information on a certificate is required, including the individual's unique ARCA ID number. When all the information has been inputted, the tool will check the information against the ARCA database, and if validated the original certificate information can be viewed on screen.

The ARCA Training Certificate Checker is available in the training section at www.arca.org.uk

arca National Training Award Winner 2023



(left to right)
Scott Murray and Sam Lord

This year ECT Environmental Services Ltd was awarded the ARCA National Training Award at the association's Annual General Meeting. ECT achieved this award by training 25 operatives and supervisors with ARCA, and these candidates obtained the highest average score across all candidates trained by ARCA in the last twelve months. "Congratulations to the team at ECT on receiving this award. The operative and supervisors scored an impressive average of 94.7% on their training. A great achievement for all," commented Satish Patel, Training Manager for ARCA.

atac National Training Award Winner 2023



(left to right)
Chris Parr and Sam Lord

This year the winner of the ATaC National Training Award is Lucion Services. The award was presented to Chris Parr at the Association's Annual General Meeting "Congratulations to the team at Lucion Services for gaining this award. Achieving the highest number of candidate passes on ATaC delivered qualifications during 2022/2023," commented Satish Patel, Training Manager for the association.

NVQ Qualification Success

To all the dedicated candidates who have diligently worked and earned their NVQ qualifications between September and October 2023:

Your exceptional skills and unwavering commitment are being recognised in this edition of ARCA News and we congratulate you all on this achievement.

RSPH Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Removal of Hazardous Waste (Construction) – Licensed Asbestos;

Simon Stenson	Rhodar Ltd
Robert Shapcott	John F Hunt Ltd
Joshua Johnson	Real Training Services

RSPH Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Supervising Licensed Asbestos Removal (Construction);

Ross Cressingham	Clifford Devlin Ltd
Andrew Cann	Thompsons Asbestos Services
Shane Wright	Asbestech Ltd

Thank you to all the individuals above for giving ARCA permission to include their names in this congratulations piece.



ARCA Training Terms & Conditions and Policies are available at ***www.arca.org.uk/page/arca-training-terms-conditions-and-policies***

Remote *Training Courses*

Industry Refresher for Asbestos Removal Operatives (Remote) — 1 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
3, 11, 13, 19, 26, 31	6, 10, 12, 21, 27	6, 9, 14, 18, 28

Members fee £130.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £145.00 (excl vat)

Industry Refresher for Asbestos Removal Supervisors (Remote) — 1 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
5, 10, 13, 17, 24	1, 7, 10, 14, 28	9, 13, 20, 25

Members fee £130.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £145.00 (excl vat)

New Licensed Contract Manager (Remote) — 2 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
3		4

Members fee £230.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £260.00 (excl vat)

Licensed Contract Manager Update (Remote) — 1 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
12, 19	1, 14, 23	7, 15, 22

Members fee £230.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £260.00 (excl vat)

Risk Assessments & Plans of Work (Remote) — 1 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
29		1

Members fee £130.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £145.00 (excl vat)

Asbestos H&S Management of Senior Managers & Directors (Remote) — 1 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
		8

Members fee £130.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £145.00 (excl vat)

Asbestos Awareness (Remote) — HALF DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
8	19	12

Members fee £50.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £65.00 (excl vat)

Asbestos Removal for Administrators (Remote) — 1 DAY COURSE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
18		

Members fee £130.00 (excl vat) | Non Members fee £145.00 (excl vat)

Dates shown in Red denote a Saturday

Centre-based *Training Courses*

New Asbestos Removal Operative

3 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	8		18
Rayleigh - ARCA	22		4
Glasgow - Specialist Assess' & Training Centre			20
Manchester - AEC Ltd	29		
Stockton on Tees - Northern Safety			18
Leeds - Rhodar	15	19	
Southampton - ABP	15	19	11

Members fee £425.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £475.00 (excl vat)**

Industry Refresher Training for Asbestos Removal Operatives

1 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	22	16, 24, 29	26
Rayleigh - ARCA	5, 10, 27	5, 9, 22, 29	14, 26
Glasgow - Specialist Assess' & Training Centre	12, 30		
Manchester - AEC Ltd		2	
Stockton on Tees - Northern Safety	17		12
Leeds - Rhodar	11		
Southampton - ABP	9	2, 26	14

Members fee £155.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £175.00 (excl vat)**

New Asbestos Removal Supervisor

3 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA		7	
Rayleigh - ARCA	29		
Glasgow - Specialist Assess' & Training Centre			
Manchester - AEC Ltd			
Southampton - ABP	24	27	18
Leeds - Rhodar			
Stockton on Tees - Northern Safety			

Members fee £425.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £475.00 (excl vat)**

Industry Refresher Training for Asbestos Removal Supervisors

1 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	5, 12, 23, 27	8, 27	19
Rayleigh - ARCA	3, 12, 31	6, 8, 24	1, 8, 15, 27
Glasgow - Specialist Assess' & Training Centre		29	
Manchester - AEC Ltd		9	
Stockton on Tees - Northern Safety	18		
Leeds - Rhodar	22		
Southampton - ABP	10, 29	22	7, 25

Members fee £195.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £230.00 (excl vat)**

New Licensed Contract Manager

2 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	29		
Rayleigh - ARCA			
Southampton - ABP			26
Manchester - AEC Ltd			
Glasgow - Specialist Assess' & Training Centre			12

Members fee £295.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £365.00 (excl vat)**

Licensed Contract Manager Update

1 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	15	26	12
Rayleigh - ARCA	23	7	
Southampton - ABP			28
Stockton on Tees - Northern Safety			
Manchester - AEC Ltd			1
Glasgow - Specialist Assess' & Training Centre			14
Leeds - Rhodar			

Members fee £155.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £175.00 (excl vat)**

Air Management Workshop

HALF DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA			
Rayleigh - ARCA		8	
Southampton - ABP	18		5

Members fee £95.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £125.00 (excl vat)**

Personal Air Monitoring Workshop

HALF DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA		15	
Rayleigh - ARCA			
Southampton - ABP	19		6

Members fee £95.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £125.00 (excl vat)**

HSE Licensed Scaffolders

1 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA			
Rayleigh - ARCA			25

Members fee £155.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £175.00 (excl vat)**

Use, Inspection & Routine Maintenance of RPE

1 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	8	19	12
Rayleigh - ARCA		8	

Members fee £155.00 (excl vat) | **Non Members fee £175.00 (excl vat)**

Dates shown in Red denote a Saturday

Asbestos Removal *Qualifications*

ARCA Qualification Terms & Conditions and Policies are available at ***www.arca.org.uk/page/arca-qualification-terms-conditions-and-policies***

Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Removal of Hazardous Waste (Construction) - Lic. Asbestos

On-Site Assessment and Training (OSAT)

This qualification is achieved by assessment.
Assessments are held weekly/monthly so please call for latest availability.

Notes on Fees: Assessment fees are ex VAT. There is no VAT on the registration fee.
Assessment fees are based on assessing two candidates on-site on the same day. Assessing one candidate on-site will incur additional costs.
Employers that are registered with the CITB for Levy purposes can claim grants from the CITB and might be eligible for up to £600.00 per candidate.

Fees (excl VAT)

Member	Non Member
Assessment £1,100.00 Registration £82.00	Assessment £1,175.00 Registration £82.00

Experienced Candidate Assessment Route (ECAR)

This qualification is achieved by assessment.
Assessments are held weekly/monthly so please call for latest availability.

Notes on Fees: Assessment fees are ex VAT. There is no VAT on the registration fee.
Assessment fees are based on assessing two candidates at an ARCA Centre on the same day. Assessing one candidate on-site will incur additional costs.
Employers that are registered with the CITB for Levy purposes can claim grants from the CITB and might be eligible for up to £600.00 per candidate.

Fees (excl VAT)

Member	Non Member
Assessment £1,200.00 Registration £82.00	Assessment £1,275.00 Registration £82.00

Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Supervising Licensed Asbestos Removal (Construction)

This qualification is achieved by assessment.
Assessments are held weekly/monthly so please call for latest availability.

Notes on Fees: Assessment fees are ex VAT. There is no VAT on the registration fee.
Assessment fee is based on three assessment days (on-site) for one candidate.
Employers that are registered with the CITB for Levy purposes can claim grants from the CITB and might be eligible for up to £600.00 per candidate.

Fees (excl VAT)

Member	Non Member
Assessment £1,950.00 Registration £82.00	Assessment £2,225.00 Registration £82.00

RSPH Level 4 Diploma in Asbestos Removal for Contract Managers

2 DAY COURSE
Non-Consecutive

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA			4, 11
Rayleigh - ARCA			4, 11
Manchester - AEC Ltd			4, 11

Members fee £590.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £790.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00



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Asbestos Testing & Laboratory *Qualifications*

ATaC Qualification Terms & Conditions and Policies are available at ***www.atac.org.uk/page/atac-qualification-terms-conditions-and-policies***

RSPH Level 3 Award in Asbestos Surveying

3 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	31		25
Rayleigh - ARCA		26	

Members fee £520.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £570.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

REMOTE TRAINING & EXAM DAY

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Remote Training	4, 11, 18		
Exam Day (Burton)	24		

Members fee £519.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £569.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

EXAM ONLY DAY

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		
Rayleigh - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		

Members fee £180.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £195.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

RSPH Level 3 Award for Asbestos Air Monitoring & Clearance Procedures

4 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA		13	
Rayleigh - ARCA			18

Members fee £745.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £795.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £147.00

REMOTE TRAINING & EXAM DAY

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Remote Training		2, 9, 16, 23	
Exam Day (Burton)		29	

Members fee £744.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £794.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £147.00

EXAM ONLY DAY

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		
Rayleigh - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		

Members fee £745.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £795.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £147.00

RSPH Level 3 Award in Asbestos Bulk Analysis

EXAM ONLY DAY

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		
Rayleigh - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		

Contact for fee	Exam fee £330.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

RSPH Level 4 Certificate in Asbestos Laboratory & Project Management

3 DAY COURSE
Non-Consecutive

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Unit 1	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		
Unit 2	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		

Members fee £1200.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £1350.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

RSPH Level 3 Award in Asbestos Management for Dutyholders

4 DAY COURSE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Burton upon Trent - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		
Rayleigh - ARCA	CALL FOR AVAILABILITY		

Members fee £720.00 (excl vat	Exam fee £770.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

REMOTE TRAINING & EXAM DAY

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Remote Training		5, 6, 12	
Exam Day (Burton)		13	

Members fee £519.00 (excl vat)	Non Members fee £569.00 (excl vat)	Registration fee £82.00

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The following companies are no longer members of the Association:

ARTICO Environmental Ltd - ***Full Member***
(ceased trading)

ASBpro Limited - ***Associate Member***

Bureau Veritas UK Ltd - ***ATaC Member***

J Cullen Thermals Ltd - ***Full Member***

Squibb Group Ltd - ***Full Member***

arca Members

South-East Members

AA Woods Asbestos Abatement
Woods House, River Way, Harlow, Essex CM20 2DP
T: 01279 444630
W: www.aawoods.com

Abastra Environmental Ltd
Unit 42 Hornsby Square, Southfields Business Park, Basildon, Essex SS15 6SD
T: 01268 411355
W: www.abastra.co.uk

Active Environmental Management
Unit 3, Thames Industrial Estate, High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 3HL
T: 01582 667000
W: www.activeenviro.com

Allan Dyson Asbestos Services Limited
Cagex House, Leyden Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG1 2BP
T: 01438 360656
W: www.allandyson-asbestos.co.uk

Alltask Ltd
Alltask House, Commissioners Road, Rochester, ME2 4EJ
T: 01634 298000
W: www.alltask.co.uk

Allweather Roofing & Construction Ltd
The Estates Office, Little Champions Farm
Maplehurst Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 6RN
T: 01273 388088
W: www.theallweathergroup.co.uk

Amiante STR Limited
Eversley Haulage Park, Brickhouse Hill, Eversley, Hook, Hampshire RG27 0PZ
T: 02392 230700
W: www.amiante.co.uk

Amstech Asbestos Removals Limited
Unit F, Rich Industrial Estate, Avis Way, Newhaven, East Sussex BN9 0DU
T: 01273 510011
W: www.amstech.co.uk

Arco Environmental Ltd
Unit 8 Ashton Gate, Ashton Road, Harold Hill, Romford, Essex RM3 8UF
T: 01708 347063
W: www.arcoenvironmental.com

ARCS Environmental Limited
Alton, Harrow Road, North Benfleet, Wickford, Essex SS12 9JW
T: 01268 725477
W: www.arcsenvironmental.co.uk

ARG Europe Ltd
Unit 2, New Ford Road, Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire EN8 7PG
T: 02088 048008
W: www.arggroup.org

Asbestech Limited
Unit 3, The IO Centre, Hearle Way, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL10 9EW
T: 08456 800055
W: www.asbestech.com

Asbestos Essentials
Unit 5 Crossinglands Business Park, Salford Road, Aspley Guise, Buckinghamshire MK17 8HZ
T: 0330 223 4024
W: www.asbestosessentials.co.uk

Asgen Limited
Buildings 7B & 7C, The Mousery, Beeches Road, Wickford, Essex SS11 8TJ
T: 01702 230457
W: www.asgen.co.uk

Ashbee Solutions Ltd
Newbridge Farm, Fox Street, Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex CO7 7PN
T: 01206 233360
W: www.solutions.ashbee.org

GET YOUR LOGO PLACED WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP LISTING - **CALL ARCA ON 01283 566467**

Aspect Contracts Ltd
Aspect House, Honywood Road, Basildon, Essex SS14 3DS
T: 01268 534477
W: www.aspectcontracts.co.uk

Best Environmental Solutions
Bays 1 and 2, Unit 1 Rawreth Industrial Estate, Rawreth Lane, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 9RL
T: 01268 727005
W: www.bestenvironmental.co.uk

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