



**M&J GROUP**  
CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING

# TOOLBOX TALKS

## #82 | Asbestos training



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## **TOOL BOX TALK: #82 ASBESTOS**

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**REASON** Up to 5,000 people a year, from all industries, die from asbestos-related diseases. Asbestos kills more people in the UK than road accidents do.

**WHY** You need to be aware of Asbestos – it could kill you.

**OUTLINE** This talk covers where you will find asbestos, how it can affect you and hazardous at work.

### **WHERE YOU WILL FIND ASBESTOS**

- The asbestos removal industry estimates that over 3,000 products contained asbestos. It can be found:
- In insulation and sprayed coatings used for: boilers, plant and pipework; some are obvious but some are hidden in underfloor ducting; fire protection to steelwork, often hidden behind false ceilings; thermal and acoustic insulation of buildings.
- In insulating board used in: fire protection to doors, protected exits and steelwork; claddings on walls and ceiling; internal walls, partitions and suspended ceiling tiles; fire blankets.
- In asbestos cement, which is found as: corrugated roofing and cladding sheets of buildings; flat sheets for partitions, cladding and other door facings; rainwater gutters and downpipes.
- In other products: some textured coatings and paints; friction materials (such as brake linings and clutch plates); flashguards and components within equipment.



## HOW ASBESTOS CAN AFFECT YOU

- Asbestos breaks into tiny, long, sharp fibres. They can get lodged and scar the lungs, causing asbestosis, fibrosis or a form of lung cancer.
- It can also cause mesothelioma, a cancer of the inner lining of the chest wall. This cancer is incurable.
- Smoking increases the risk of asbestos-related diseases.

## HAZARDOUS WORK

- Anyone working on building repair and refurbishment is considered most at risk.
- Anyone who may encounter asbestos as part of their daily work operations should have asbestos awareness training. This includes most people within the construction and maintenance sector.
- It is currently estimated that 20 people from the construction sector die each week as a result of past asbestos exposure.
- Buildings constructed before 2000 may have forms of asbestos-containing materials in them.
- The removal of any asbestos, including low risk materials such as roofing felts, old floor tiles, textured paints and plasters containing asbestos can be hazardous.
- If you think you've come across asbestos, stop work and tell your supervisor.
- Beware of asbestos-containing materials that have been painted using lead-based paint. This could be a double hazard.



## **DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FOR ME?**

Do you have any further questions? *Ask them now & make notes here.*

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**THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN ACCIDENT  
SOMEONE, SOMEWHERE DID SOMETHING TO CAUSE IT.**

Presented by : \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Presented to : \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_