



TB 20

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ASBESTOS - UPDATE

Since the issue of Technical Bulletin 12 (July 2002) CIL A has been monitoring developments in the insurance market.

Although there is nothing specific to report at the present time we are represented on the ABI Asbestos Working Party who are liaising with the HSE with regards to defining procedures for textured coatings. As soon as their report is issued we will circulate this to all members.

Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002

In the meantime members are reminded that the Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002 came into force on 21 May 2004 and contain the legal requirements for protecting people at work from exposure to asbestos fibres. These regulations can be downloaded from:

<http://www.legislation.hms0.gov.uk/si/si2002/20022675.htm>

The regulations create a new legal duty on all owners or occupiers to manage asbestos in non-domestic buildings and to:

- Take reasonable steps to determine the location of materials likely to contain asbestos (ACM's) and check what condition the material is in.
- Presume the material contains asbestos unless there is strong evidence that it does not.
- Prepare a register of ACM's within the buildings, recording the location and condition of the material and keep it up to date.



- Prepare a risk assessment relating to the level of risk that may issue from disturbance of the material due to location or condition.
- Prepare a policy and procedures plan to manage the risks of materials within the building stating which are to be removed, remain in place or be repaired.

The interval at which the building, or specific areas within the building, should be re-inspected should also be stated.

The Health and Safety Executive have also published three Approved Codes of Practice providing practical advice on how to comply with these regulations:

L27 - Work with Asbestos Which Does Not Normally Require a Licence (4th edition)

L28 - Work with Asbestos Insulation, Asbestos Coating and Asbestos Insulating Board (4th edition)

L127 - The Management of Asbestos in Non-Domestic Premises

Various websites have material which may be of interest. For example:

www.hse.gov.uk

The Health & Safety Executive's site contains publications on *Methods for the Determination of Hazardous Substances (2002)*; *A short guide to Managing Asbestos in Premises (2003)*; and *Working with Asbestos in Buildings (2001)*.

www.rics.org

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' site contains over 400 papers and articles on asbestos.