

Asbestos Legislation and Refurbishment for System Builds

EMPA 'Master Class', 5th April 2011

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What is asbestos?

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is the name given to a naturally occurring group of silicate minerals.



It is used as an insulator (to keep in heat and keep out cold), has good fire protection properties and protects against corrosion.

It's tough

It's durable

Asbestos is amazing...

It can be woven

It's heat resistant

However...

asbestos is a dangerous, silent killer

What is asbestos?

The three most commonly found types are:

- Crocidolite ('blue' asbestos)
- Amosite ('brown' asbestos)
- Chrysotile ('white' asbestos)

Asbestos has been imported into the UK since the 1890's. Usage peaked in the 1950's and 1960's but it continued to be used in building materials **until the year 2000.**

Here's the **No-scrub floor** that stays "first-day fresh"

Johns-Manville
TERRAFLEX vinyl asbestos tile

Johns-Manville Terraflex®, the original vinyl asbestos tile, has practically eliminated one of the most unpleasant of chores—scrubbing the floor! Terraflex has a non-porous surface that dirt can't penetrate, so a damp mop usually keeps it spot and span. It defies kitchen oils and grease. Now available in 1/16" thickness that you can install yourself. Can be cut to fit with scissors. Johns-Manville Terraflex gives you years of care-free floor beauty.

THIS COLORFUL NEW BOOK
Shows the most attractive, popular flooring designs and charts of all the Terraflex colors.

Send 10¢ for your copy

Mail coupon and 10¢ for this design book today!
JOHNS-MANVILLE, Dept. BH-5, Box 60, N. Y. 16, N. Y.
Please send me the J-M Terraflex book, "Designs for Better Floors." I enclose 10¢ in coin.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____

Johns-Manville

Johns-Manville sponsors "Meet The Press" alternate Sundays on NBC-TV. We invite you to tune in.

Just a damp mopping keeps it shining bright!

Asbestos Trivia

the essential pub quiz guide to asbestos



3000-500 BC



Asbestos used in '**Burial Shrouds**'

found in Central and Northeastern

Thailand from **3000 to 500BC**.

Evidence suggests an established relationship between asbestos and power with the fibres being highly

prized by societies elite.

Should I be concerned about asbestos?

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Every week 6 electricians die
from this hidden killer.

Absolutely YES....

- asbestos is the **No.1 cause of work related deaths** in the UK (HSE website).
- the negative health effects of asbestos are cumulative and take time to appear.

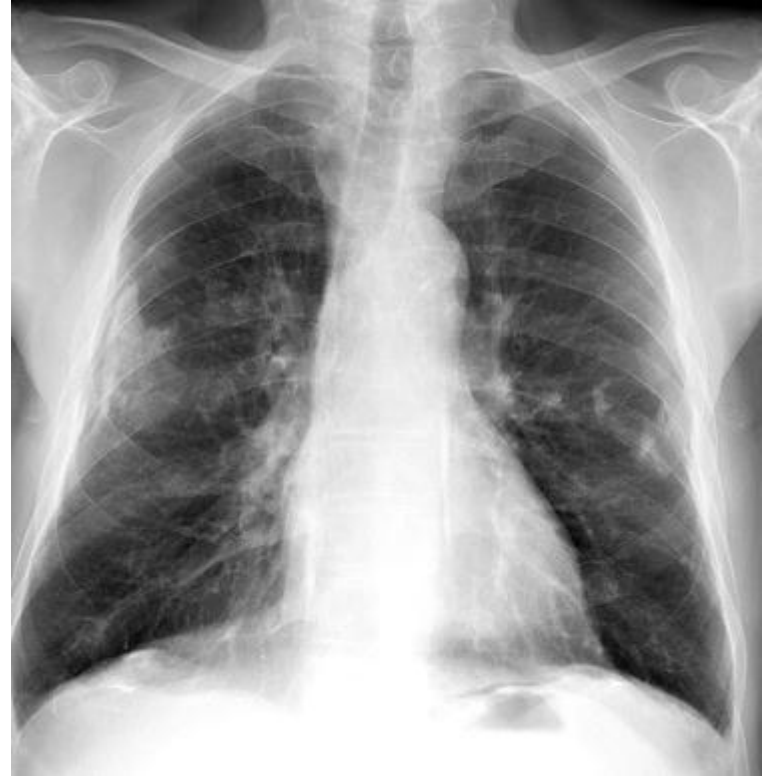
Why is asbestos harmful?

- **Asbestos in good condition and undisturbed poses little risk to health.**
- When **damaged or disturbed it can break down** into sharp, fine, airborne fibres that can be breathed in.
- The **fibres lodge in the lungs** where they do not dissolve and over time they can damage lung tissues.

Why is asbestos harmful?

Inhaled asbestos fibres, over time, may cause the following disease:

- Mesothelioma
- Asbestos related lung cancer
- Asbestosis
- Pleural thickening



There are no cures for asbestos related disease.

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~200 AD



Asbestos was used in the construction of homes in **ancient Greece and Rome** as it 'affords protection against all spells, particularly that of the Magi'.

Pliny the Elder observes '**sickness of the lungs**' in slaves working in asbestos mines.

Current Asbestos Legislation

Current Asbestos Legislation

- The **Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006** places a **'Duty to Manage'** asbestos on the **'Duty Holder'** in all non-domestic properties.
- The **'Duty Holder'** is the **person(s) or organisation responsible for the maintenance and repair** of all non-domestic properties.
- The **'Duty Holder's'** responsibilities **may transfer or be shared** through an agreement or contract.

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Medieval Period



Medieval Knights used
asbestos to help **insulate**
and **pad their armour.**

What are 'Asbestos Surveys' for?

The purpose of all asbestos surveys is to meet legal requirements and provide...

‘Information about the location and condition of any asbestos containing materials’

Asbestos Surveys

Since the introduction of HSG 264, there are 2 categories of asbestos surveys:

Management Surveys

The purpose of the management survey is to produce an asbestos register.

Refurbishment/Demolition Surveys

Any building work that requires intrusive access into a properties structure requires a refurbishment/demolition asbestos survey.



News release

10th February 2011

EMBARGOED TILL 00:00am 10 FEBRUARY 2011

HSE clampdown on unsafe construction sites

Over the next month, construction sites across the country will be visited as part of an intensive inspection initiative aimed at reducing death and injury in one of Britain's most dangerous industries.

During 2009/10, 42 workers died while working in construction, nationally, and nearly three quarters of these occurred during refurbishment, repair and maintenance activities. These will be the main focus of the latest inspections by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

On the unannounced visits – starting on 14 February - the inspectors will ensure that sites are managing work at height safely and that they are in good order, as well as checking that the risk of exposure to asbestos is being properly managed.

Last year inspectors visited 2014 sites and 2414 contractors. They were forced to issue more than 350 prohibition notices to stop dangerous work - much of it relating to working from height.

Philip White, HSE's Chief Inspector of Construction, said:

“This will be the fifth year that we have run the inspection initiative across Britain and we anticipate that there will be examples of both good and bad practice - those where employers are taking all the measures they can to protect their workers and those where safety is way down the list of priorities.

“A lax attitude to health and safety in one of the more dangerous industries is not acceptable, especially when many of the incidents are completely avoidable by taking commonsense actions and precautions. As we've

‘HSE Clampdown on Unsafe Construction Sites’

February 2011

“This year, as part of ensuring risks from asbestos are properly managed, we will also be checking that, where appropriate, asbestos surveys have been carried out prior to any refurbishment work.”

Asbestos Trivia

the essential pub quiz guide to asbestos



~1918



By 1918 Insurance Companies began to deny insurance policies to ‘asbestos workers’ due to **“assumed health-injurious conditions”**

Independent Asbestos Consultants

- 'A Blessing, Not a Curse!'



‘Asbestos Analysts always
stop or slow down projects
with long lists of **what**
can’t be done!’

Professional advice from an asbestos specialist should **improve project management** and help projects come in **on time** and **on budget**



Professional Advice Delivers 'Best Value'

Is there a difference between 'Cheapest' and 'Best Value'?

There will always be someone 'cheap', but do these people:

- have an understanding of project management, realistic timescales and know how to **interpret asbestos report findings**?
- work for the client to ensure a 'safe' and successful outcome?
- deliver an accredited service with **adequate professional indemnity insurance**?



Where is the **liability** if it goes wrong?

Asbestos Trivia

the essential pub quiz guide to asbestos



~1950

ALL OVER AMERICA...
MORE SCIENTISTS AND EDUCATORS
SMOKE KENT with the MICRONITE FILTER
than any other cigarette!

SMOKE PERFORMANCE OF KENT	
TAR	11.0 mg
NICOTINE	0.9 mg
TAR	11.0 mg
NICOTINE	0.9 mg

SMOKE PERFORMANCE OF KENT	
TAR	11.0 mg
NICOTINE	0.9 mg
TAR	11.0 mg
NICOTINE	0.9 mg

For good smoking taste,
it makes good sense to smoke **KENT**

REGULAR SIZE, KING SIZE
OR CRYSTAL POUCH BOX



Some **cigarettes used asbestos**
in their filter tips.

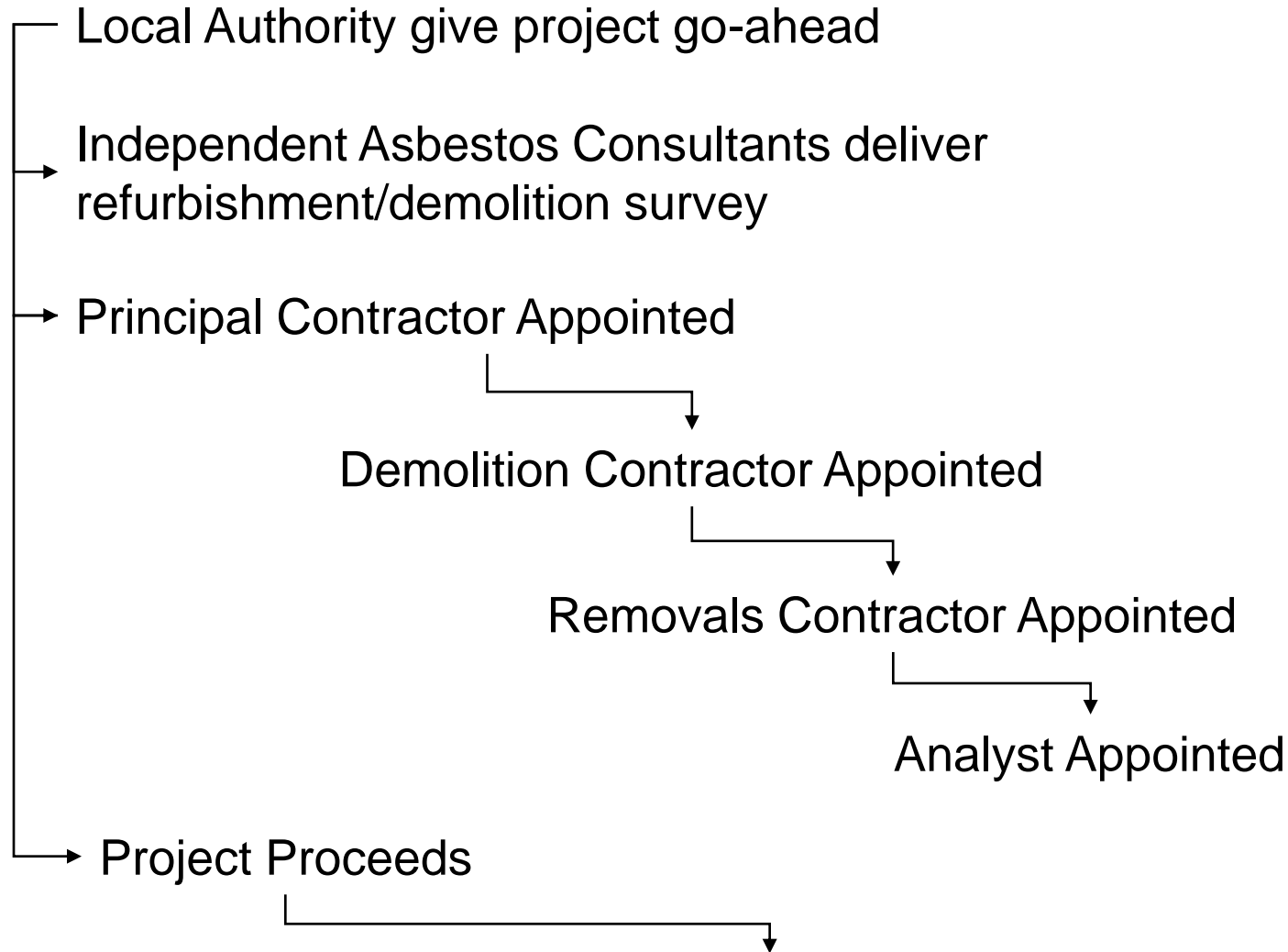
Between 1952-1957, Americans puffed
their way through over **13 Billion**
Kent 'Micronite' filtered
cigarettes.

‘Let’s look at a project where the asbestos management went wrong last summer and see what lessons can be learned’

Project Details

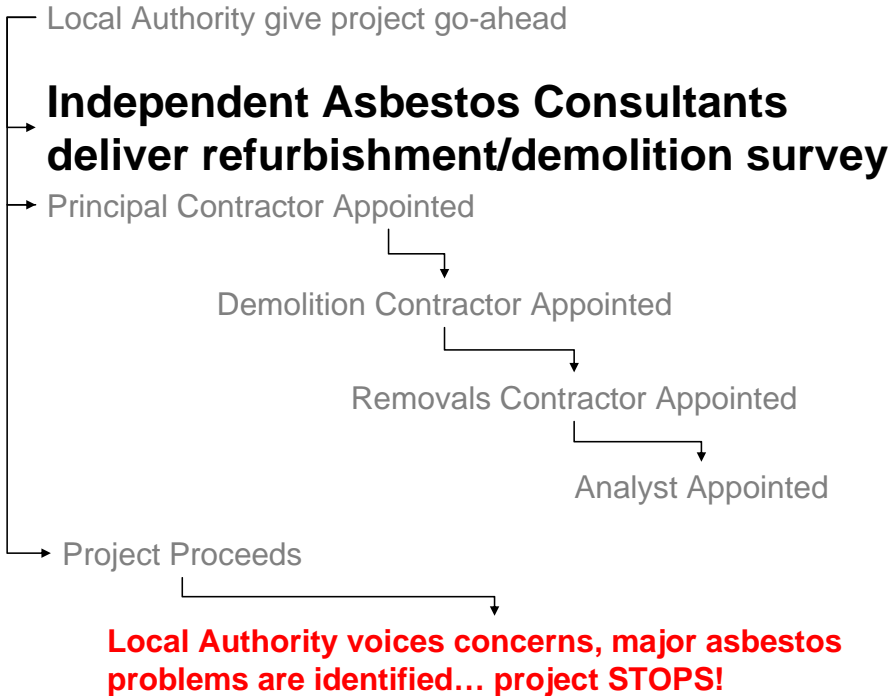
- Large refurbishment project for an East Midlands Local Authority.
- Building was a CLASP and Spooner system built school and the project included demolition, refurbishment and reinstatement works.
- Project works were planned around the school summer holiday period.

Project Process Flow/Timeline



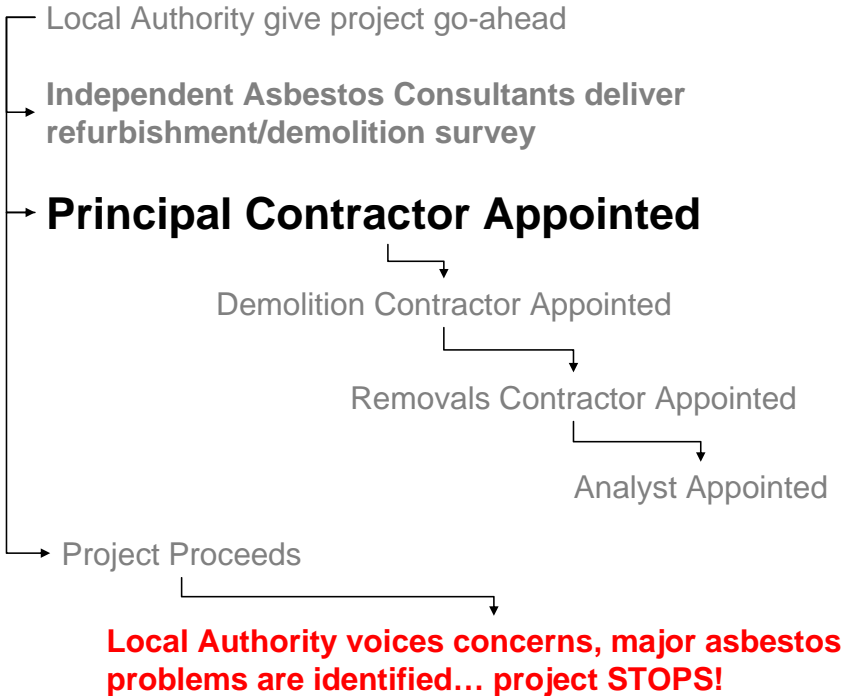
Local Authority voices concerns, asbestos problems are identified... project STOPS!

Where were the mistakes?



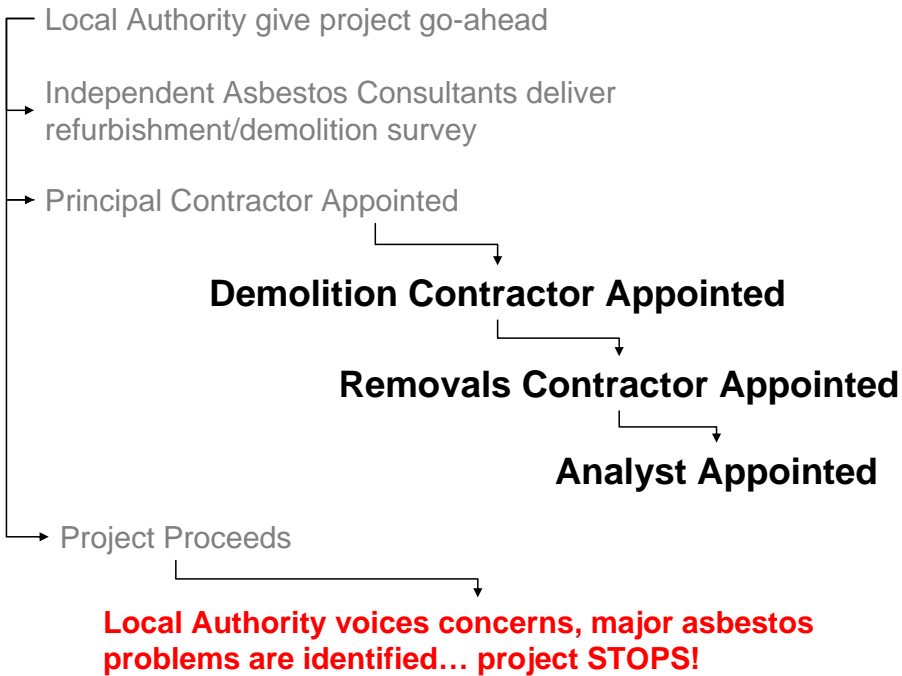
- ✓ **Scope of Works clearly identified**
- ✓ **UKAS accredited survey produced**
- X **Asbestos removal specification not produced**

Where were the mistakes?



- X Scope of Work changed (i.e. survey no longer suitable and sufficient)**
- X Survey used as a removal specification**
- X No Understanding of the specific CLASP issues of Wall and Ceiling void access**

Where were the mistakes?



- X Where was the ‘competent’ professional advice? Did they carry professional indemnity insurance?**
- X Who has ‘responsibility’ for the project?**
- X Where is the ‘Independence’? Who is looking after the client?**
- X What drives this process? Quality or Price?**

What was the Result?

The project stopped whilst....

- Additional surveying was undertaken because of the changes to the scope of work.
- Additional advice was needed and control measures put in place to work in CLASP ceiling and wall voids.
- The Asbestos Removals had to be done again!

The project was delayed, additional costs were incurred and it was all preventable!

Surely this was an isolated incident....

Sadly, **No**

Some examples from the last 12 months:

- A secondary school where refurbishments were carried out with **only a management survey**.

Surely this was an isolated incident....

Sadly, **No**

Some examples from the last 12 months:

- A CLASP building where the principal contractor is already on site only to discover that **no survey has been done**, removals will be needed and the clock is already ticking!

Surely this was an isolated incident....

Sadly, **No**

Some examples from the last 12 months:

- A high profile refurbishment with a complete survey and removal specification which failed because a contractor decided to use his **own 'interpretation'** of what needed to be done.

... and the list goes on!

What Lessons Can we Learn?

- **Collaborating with ‘competent’ asbestos professionals** at the start of a project **helps ensure success.**
- **Appointing an independent consultant** with appropriate indemnity insurance to ‘manage’ the asbestos part of the project (from survey to specification to removal) **reduces risk.**
- **Allowing subcontractors to appoint their own removal and analytical firms increases risk** to the client and reduces accountability.
- Efficient asbestos project management helps ensure projects stay on time, on budget and that the **asbestos analyst is a blessing not a curse!**

Thanks for your Attention

For further information please contact
Paul, James or any of our team.

Tel: 0845 8800350 www.firstorderred.co.uk