

H4 ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS



Asbestos containing materials (ACMs) are a broad range of products containing asbestos that are controlled substances. They are made from a mixture of fibrous asbestos and other materials that is compressed and dried into a range of construction products, including sheets, pipes, boards, tiles, mats, insulation, lagging, gaskets, flexible couplings, rope, fuses, mastics, beading, filler, putty, some bituminous materials and some equipment or appliances. Asbestos containing materials were made in various sizes and designs depending on the desired performance and intended use. They are hazardous materials and need appropriate and specialist treatment and handling.

Asbestos Containing Materials Hazardous
17 06 05

WASTE STREAMS

DISPOSAL

The landfilling of asbestos containing materials is currently the only option, always by an approved contractor and into a licensed landfill following strict guidelines and protocols.

RECOVERY

There are no recovery options for asbestos containing materials.

RECYCLE

There are no recycling options for asbestos containing materials.

RECLAIM

Asbestos containing materials will never again be accepted for reuse. They must not be reused, sold or given away.

USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Asbestos containing materials have been used to prevent fire or heat transmitting between materials and to sustain building structural integrity during fire. They can be found in domestic, commercial and industrial buildings fixed to or within ceilings, walls, cavities, roofs, floors, panel systems, lift shafts, service routes, piping, equipment, appliances, brake linings, mastics, joints of products and some architectural features.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).



REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Asbestos containing materials destined for landfill should only be removed by approved, specialist contractors. They are to be carefully deconstructed, segregated and stored safely according to strict guidelines and protocols. They should be removed from site in accordance with HSE legislation with the appropriate RPE/PPE.

TOOLS

Specialist asbestos moving equipment and tools, scaffold towers, power lifts, asbestos bags, asbestos dust monitoring equipment, dust containment screens, appropriate access and protective equipment.

FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Asbestos containing materials are commonly fixed in place with nails, screws, bolts, plugs, nuts and bolts, straps, mortar, screed, putty, mastic, glues, adhesives or other binding agent. Some asbestos containing materials required no fixings, they were placed within cavities, between other products or manufactured within products including panel systems, doors and floors.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS). Only remove asbestos containing materials if appropriately trained, or use specialist contractors. Wear gloves and respiratory protective equipment when handling asbestos cement products to prevent inhalation, irritation, cuts and abrasion. Use eye protection when using hand tools. Limit hand, arm and whole body vibration when using impact tools. Use appropriate access and protective equipment determined by RAMS.

FURTHER READING

HSE List of Products Maybe Containing Asbestos
Google Images of Asbestos Containing Materials
USA List of ACMs
HSE Asbestos Essentials
HSE What to do if you uncover asbestos
HSE Asbestos Resources and Reading
NFDC Guidance
Control of Asbestos
Asbestos FAQ
Removing Asbestos Cement Sheets
NetRegs - Managing your hazardous/special wastes

TRAINING

Working at Height
Manual Handling
Safe Use of Hand Tools