

1. Introduction

This document brings our asbestos policy regarding asbestos into line with the requirements of the Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2012.

2. Responsibilities

Solo Service Group policy on asbestos intends to ensure so far as it is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of its employees and others who may encounter or be exposed to asbestos at our premises or as a result of our operations.

Solo Service Group policy on asbestos shall ensure that known and identified locations of asbestos are surveyed and recorded and that any such asbestos information is made available to those persons who require it in form of an Asbestos Register.

Directors are responsible, so far as is reasonably practicable, for ensuring the health, safety and welfare at work of all employees in their respective departments. In particular they will:

Prepare and revise as necessary department arrangements for the management and control of work involving asbestos.

Ensure appropriate training, information and instruction is provided for relevant employees, and personal instruction as appropriate as prepared by the Solo Environmental, Health and Safety department.

Ensure that employees including customer employees, visitors and/ or relevant contractors are provided with appropriate information, regarding company procedures in areas containing Asbestos as prepared by the Solo Environmental, Health and Safety department.

3. What is Asbestos?

Asbestos is a general name applied to a group of related, naturally occurring fibrous minerals, which have been commonly used in a range of building and equipment materials. There are three main types of asbestos:

- Chrysotile - white
- Amosite - brown
- Crocidolite - blue

In addition, legal provision also covers the following:

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- Fibrous actinolite
- Fibrous anthophyllite
- Fibrous tremolite
- Any mixture containing any of these minerals.

Asbestos containing products have been widely used in buildings as construction materials, fireproofing, thermal insulation, electrical insulation, sound insulation, decorative plasters, roofing products, flooring products, heat resistant materials, gaskets, friction products etc.

Since 1985 the new use of any material containing blue or brown asbestos has been banned. By 1999 the new use of any building materials containing white asbestos had been banned.

4. Health Effects of Asbestos

All asbestos fibres, blue, brown and white are dangerous although the control limit for exposure to blue and brown fibres is lower than for white. There is no safe form of asbestos although products where the fibres are tightly bonded (e.g., asbestos cement) are less likely to shed fibres than products where the fibres are more loosely bonded (e.g. asbestos insulating board).

The main route of entry to the body for asbestos is by inhalation of fibres.

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