



Asbestos Fibre Monitoring

Sampling of asbestos fibre levels may be required for various reasons including identification, source of contamination, assessment of personnel exposure, determination of background levels, and efficiency and effectiveness of control measures.

NOTE:



- Asbestos Exposure air monitoring samples must be analysed by Phase Contrast Microscopy (PCM) in accordance with the Safety Health and Welfare at Work (Exposure to Asbestos) Regulations, 2006-2010
- Employee asbestos exposure is measured by collecting representative personal air samples. It is a legal requirement to carry out personal monitoring when working with asbestos.

Background Sampling

Background sampling is conducted to establish ambient airborne fibre levels prior to commencing any activity that may lead to airborne asbestos contamination.

Leak (Enclosure Check) Testing

Sampling outside an enclosure and in adjacent areas during the removal process to ensure environmental control measures are being maintained.

Reassurance Sampling

This type of monitoring may be required in certain circumstances (such as when an enclosure has been dismantled on completion of asbestos removal) to confirm that the residual airborne asbestos fibre concentrations are less than 0.010 fibres per cubic centimetre of air sampled.

Site Clearance Certification for Re-occupation

Site clearance certification is carried out once asbestos has been removed or encapsulated. The four stages of site clearance are:

1. Preliminary checks of site condition and job completion
2. Visual inspection of work area
3. Clearance air monitoring
4. Final assessment of the site for re-occupation after enclosure or work area dismantling

OHSS is accredited to **ISO17020** (Surveying for Asbestos in Premises and Risk Assessments) and **ISO17025** (Analysis of Asbestos in Bulk Materials). This means that our survey methods, analysis, quality management system and report formats conform to the highest quality standards available. As the only Irish company to have attained these competency-based standards, we are market leaders in this area.

OHSS Asbestos Monitoring Services

OHSS carries out monitoring to ensure asbestos fibre levels in the air are kept to a minimum and within statutory guidelines. Air sampling and analysis will determine the potential risk of exposure, the compliance or otherwise with action levels, control limits and the clearance indicator.

OHSS is committed to providing reliable asbestos site sampling and testing services. We ensure the accuracy and reliability of sampling by working from on-site laboratories, satellite laboratories or from our own laboratory. To achieve this level of competence we:

1. Use technicians who are trained to perform sampling and testing
2. Provide suitable laboratory accommodation that ensures a consistent level of quality
3. Use sampling and testing methods, as described by the World Health Organisation and in HSG248
4. Use equipment of established design that is suitable for the specific test activity
5. Maintain equipment calibration programmes
6. Handle samples using methods described in HSG248

An air sampling strategy will be devised prior to asbestos remedial works. Our team of highly trained consultants can use a variety of sampling techniques depending on the type of work being carried out.

OHSS Safety Consultants

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