

**Summary of Minutes of the
UKAS Asbestos Technical Advisory Committee
6th Meeting held on 27 March 2006 at UKAS**

Meeting Attendees

Bill Sanderson	(Bureau Veritas Training) – Chair
Rob Bettinson	(UKAS)
Wendy Smith	(UKAS) Secretary
Rob Blackburn	(ATaC)
Sue Burbeck	(Adams Environmental Ltd)
Garry Burdett	(HSL)
Colin Perryman	(Greenwich Analytical Services (Local government))
Kevin Walkin	(HSE Policy)
Bob Webster	Independent technical assessor
Steve Sadley	(ARCA)
Paul Winstone	(RICS)
Pamela Blythe	(BOHS) (For John Lyons)
Bruce Sutherland	(Noble Asbestos Consultancy Ltd)

Apologies/Non Attendees

Bob Daunton	(HSE Inspector)
Barry Tylee	(HSL)
John Lyons	(BOHS)
Dave Marston	(Manestream Ltd)
Peter Bodsworth	Independent technical assessor

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Update from UKAS

- **4 Stage Clearance update:** 4SC pilot concluded at the end of January 2006 with 84 organisations accredited at that time and some 28 still going through the process. Applications are still being received.
- **UKAS Technical Assessor Meeting Feedback:** The majority of the UKAS Technical assessors attended, as did Barry Tylee (representing HSE). Proved useful forum for technical discussions. The next meeting is planned for 06 November 2006 at Buxton, with the focus of the meeting being the fibre discrimination method.
- Number of accredited laboratories – approx 155 (air monitoring), approx 165 (Bulk ID)
Number of accredited Inspection bodies – 130 (1 suspended)
Personnel certification Bodies – 2 going through process, neither are accredited yet

4. Update from HSE

Consultation on the revised CAWR (03/11/05 to 31/01/06) received 500 responses. The revised regulations include tighter controls, worker protection and a risk based approach to licensing. It continues to move forward with a lot of interest, generally the feedback received has been positive with a mixed reaction to the licensing. A stakeholder meeting to be held early April to discuss sporadic low intensity and licensing. Research has been completed by HSL on texture coating and this is available on the website. A press release regarding contractor visual assessment of clearance areas has also been issued. The aim is for the revised CAWR to be published in October 2006.

5. Transition to WHO counting rules & Discrimination

All laboratories have been invited to partake in the voluntary WHO round of the RICE scheme – feedback to the laboratories is imminent from IOM

UKAS Assessors have been preparing laboratories for this for some months and have been informing laboratories of the probable October implementation date. UKAS will write to all laboratories informing them of the strong expectation to change on 01/10/06 and also outline the advised approach to prepare for the changeover and the training of staff and competency demonstrated before authorisation completed (an enhanced monitoring procedure). It was agreed that a 'declaration form' approach (similar to that of the Bulk ID change to HSG248) will be used and returned forms will result in a change to the organisations schedule in October 2006.

The RICE scheme proposes to suspend classification temporarily whilst WHO is phased in.

A water absorption method to discriminate between AIB and AC will be included in the revised HSG248. It is not a mandatory legislative requirement to hold accreditation for this procedure however it was agreed that UKAS should be prepared to offer it.

The WHO counting method allows fibres to be discriminated. It was agreed that if labs wished to do this then they would need to hold appropriate accreditation, with their strategies based on MDHS 87. Acknowledged that the technique requires high level of technical competence, therefore proposal requiring staff to hold P401 and P403 plus suitable in-house training before authorisation for discrimination was agreed.

6. Insurance Requirements

A discussion was held as to the appropriateness of requiring bodily injury to be included within PI cover. This widened to include concerns over some insurance policies requiring caveats to be included within survey reports. Acknowledged that this required further investigation and it was therefore agreed that a special meeting would be set up to address the insurance issues.

7. Policy on PT Participation for new laboratories

Agreed that a laboratory should participate in at least 2 rounds of RICE and/or AIMS (as appropriate) before accreditation can be granted (the rationale behind this is not to delay laboratories from operating whilst waiting for a classification).

8. Impartiality of lead surveyor / project manager

Paper presented in advance by UKAS (relating to clause in ILAC/IAF Guidance document A4) was discussed and the benefits/risks considered. Agreement was reached that the potential concern was not appropriate and that the Lead surveyor and Project Manager should be permitted to be the same person within the organisation. This view was supported by HSE.

9. Qualifications

- 9.1 IB "competent" person:** Paper presented in advance by UKAS discussed the appropriateness of requiring at least one member of IB to hold Certificate of Competence in Asbestos (CoCA). Committee considered that CoCA required knowledge that competent surveyors would not need to know but agreed that a minimum qualification above the P402 was appropriate. Proposal that P405 could be a suitable alternative was rejected. Agreement reached that someone who held S301 + P402 together with demonstrable competence would be accepted, although they should be strongly encouraged to progress through the oral exam to gain the CoCA.
- 9.2 Mandatory date for P403/P404:** Agreed that the date discussed at previous meetings (31 December 2006) should stand.
- 9.3 Policy for undertaking discrimination (P403 and P401?):** Agreed that analysts should hold P401 / P403 and undertake suitable internal training.

10. Type 3 surveys

Discussion held regarding concerns over the conduct and reporting of type-3 surveys. A working group is being set up to investigate this area and possibly to produce guidance that could be adopted by the industry. Two members of the TAC had been invited to participate and would keep the committee briefed. UKAS are keen to see concerns addressed.

11. AOB

Committee members agreed that a list of members and summary of minutes could be published on the UKAS Website.

12. Date of next meeting

To be arranged – Proposed for November 2006