

Asbestos Air Monitoring

Air monitoring in many instances is a legal requirement and the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (CAR 2012) makes reference to air monitoring in several of the Regulations.

There are potentially many reasons for carrying out air tests, but by far the most common is to check the airborne asbestos fibre levels associated with asbestos removal works. HBE delivers a comprehensive range of air monitoring analytical services.



We provide the following air testing services:

Witnessing Smoke Testing of Enclosures

A smoke test is carried out on all 4 stage clearance removal enclosures. The smoke test ensures that firstly the enclosure is intact and not liable to leak contaminated air, and secondly, the minimum required number of air changes per hour pass through.

Leakage Air Testing

This is performed outside the enclosure whilst asbestos work is in progress to check that the integrity of the enclosure is being maintained and that the control measures are adequate. It is also used to verify that the works are properly contained and that asbestos fibres are not being released into adjacent areas. This is of paramount importance if the adjacent areas are occupied during the asbestos removal works.

4 Stage Clearance Testing

4 Stage clearance testing is carried out following removal of licensable asbestos materials such as Asbestos insulation, Asbestos Sprayed coatings and asbestos insulating board (AIB) this is carried out under controlled conditions.

It is undertaken to confirm that asbestos removal work has been completed in accordance with regulations before a Certificate of Reoccupation can be issued.

Reassurance Air Testing

This is monitoring which is undertaken following work on or near asbestos to confirm that the airborne asbestos fibre levels are satisfactory (less than 0.01 f/cm³) For example, following removal of non-licensed asbestos materials.

Background Air Testing

This testing is generally conducted to establish the respirable fibre concentrations prior to any activity which may lead to airborne asbestos contamination, to ensure that the risk is not being increased as a result of the activity. This type of test can also be carried out to check for airborne fibres in situations where it is suspected that asbestos fibres may have been released e.g. by accidental damage or inadvertent disturbance of asbestos materials.

Personal Air Monitoring

Personal sampling is normally carried out for 2 main reasons.

Firstly as an essential check to ensure that control measures are effective and in particular that the protection factor afforded by the RPE selected is adequate for the asbestos fibre levels to which workers will be exposed.

Secondly, Personal sampling is normally conducted for compliance. This is sampling

carried out to assess the personal exposure of workers, to show that exposure is the lowest level that is reasonably practicable and does not exceed the 4 hour Control Limit (0.1 f/cm³).

Why choose HBE?

Our UKAS accredited air monitoring services are carried out in accordance with ISO 17025 and the HSE guidance including HSG248 Asbestos: The analysts' guide for sampling, analysis and clearance procedures and in-house procedures.



HBE is one of only two organisations to have achieved ISO 17025 *and* ISO 17020 accreditations for Asbestos air monitoring, Surveying and Legionella Risk Assessments.

Our team of Analysts are some of the most highly qualified, experienced consultants in the UK and Ireland. They all hold the internationally recognised BOHS proficiency module P403 *Asbestos fibre counting* and the BOHS P404 *Air sampling for Asbestos and MMMF and requirements for a Certificate of Reoccupation following clearance of asbestos.*

The HBE difference

At HBE, we endeavour to make our services as seamless as possible. Both our air monitoring paperwork and certification are completed using hand-held tablets and are printed from our mobile laboratory, ensuring that copies can be left on-site for both the building manager and the contractor, if required.

Our air monitoring services are available on an emergency basis, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Samples are either analysed in the field or submitted for certified analysis to a UKAS accredited laboratory.

For more information about our air monitoring services or a quote, contact us on 0845 6399 673 or email sales@hberm.com.

For further details about our air monitoring services, please contact us:

By email - enquiries@hberm.com

By phone - ROI 01 257 3141

UK/NI 0845 6399 673