

Asbestos Liaison Group Technical Sub Committee (ALGTSC)	
Minutes of the meeting of the ALG TSC held on the 29th September 2011 ACAD offices Darlington	
Present: Martin Gibson (HSE), Colette Willoughby (BOHS), Steve Sadley (ARCA), Steve Watkins (UKATA), Terry Slater (ACAD) Coll Johnson (ACAD)	
Apologies for absence: None	
1.0	Introductions, apologies and welcome: Martin Gibson welcomed all attendees to the meeting and thanked Steve Sadley for preparing the minutes from the last meeting. Martin made reference to the large gap between meetings and indicated that the HSE has been very busy with the Reasoned Opinion and the Prosecution of M&S.
2.0	Minutes of last ALGTSC meeting and acceptance: The minutes of the ALGTSC meeting held on the 25th January 2011 were agreed and accepted by the Committee.
3.0	Matters Arising from the minutes: Item 9.0 The use of flame retardant coveralls for asbestos work on offshore installations - Discharged Item 10 The entry into live enclosures by other trades It was felt that in the case where other trades were required to enter a live enclosure for planned work the requirement for them to hold a licence was not practical. The Committee felt that the HSE Asbestos Licensing Unit had to take a view on this issue and decide whether measures such as medical surveillance, training, and being accompanied by the licensed contractor’s supervisor were sufficient for an individual from another trade to enter a live enclosure. Action: Martin Gibson to discuss with Greg Haywood from the Asbestos Licensing Unit to get clarification Item 11.0 Gas and electrical safety of DCU’s – Item 5 on main agenda also Agenda item 8 gas safety DCU Ventilation. Item 12.0 Soffit removal – Main agenda item Item 12.0 Hot work – Hot working article circulated and reissued to Trade association

Members - Discharged

Item 14.0 Study on design of airlocks/baglocks

Martin Gibson confirmed that this study is still going ahead and that he will circulate some information regarding the study for comment.

.

Action:

Martin Gibson to circulate information on study for comment

Post Meeting Note: A verbal update was given

Item 18.0 Sample Taking

Steve Watkins confirmed that UKATA would be producing a Training Syllabus for the taking of bulk samples. Martin Gibson suggested that information on the taking of bulk samples may be added to the unlicensed contractors guide.

Item 19.0 Asbestos in soils – Colette indicated that there was a BOHS conference on the 1st of November committee agreed to carry over this agenda item to the next meeting and review new information.

AOB – New Phantom Vision respirator - Martin Gibson stated that the ACoP states a new face fit will be required when changing to a new model of RPE and Scott Health and Safety have been advised of this.

The Non-licensed Contractors' Guide

The Non-licensed Contractors' Guide is on hold having completed an internal consultation. The guide will be reviewed in light of internal HSE comments before being put out for general consultation. This will be done as soon as possible following the resolution of the change to the control of asbestos regulations. The consultation document will be available on the HSE website in order to reach as wide a section of industry as possible.

The Analysts Guide

The Analysts Guide is on hold. It will be published both on the internet and in book form, this will be done as soon as possible following the resolution of the change to the control of asbestos regulations.. It is currently running 12 months behind schedule. The Guide will be available for internal HSE review by the end of 2011 and publication is expected to be April next year.

Construction Blitz

Martin Gibson reported back to the committee the preliminary findings of the construction blitz carried out in early 2011, Martin explained that 120 refurbishment and demolition surveys had been collected during the Blitz. Preliminary indications using the HSE's assessment tool are that half of the surveys reviewed failed to meet the requirements set out in HSG 264 - Asbestos The Survey Guide. The full findings are expected to be published in April 2012.

<p>4.0</p>	<p>Soffit Guide</p> <p>Historically there have been three drafts of the consultation document dating back to 2004. This formed part of the Glass and Glazing Federations Code of Practice. Originally the document was going to be a guide for all external ACM's but it was decided to cover soffits only. The guide explores the issues regarding enclosures and when to build one and when to use partial enclosure, it covers sensitive areas such as schools. It will contain photos graphics and diagrams to make it easy to follow. The use of respirators is covered with a move towards full face masks for all removal works including partial enclosures. The Soffit Guide is being reviewed by the committee with a view to publishing it for wider consultation before the end of 2011.</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Electrical Testing</p> <p>The Committee discussed the draft document Guidance On The Instructions For Safe Installation and The Inspection and Testing of Electrical Installations and Equipment in Asbestos Decontamination Units. The committee are to draw down the main points of the document and conceive a memo style document to be issued as an ALG memo Actions - Steve Sadley to prepare draft document. Martin Gibson to check and provide guidance on what constitutes a competent person in relation to testing and using.</p>
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Mask Decontamination</p> <p>It was discussed some time ago and agreed with Jim Skilling that in some circumstances a preliminary decontamination of a mask could be carried out using a low pressure hand held water sprayer and a single use wipe or cloth when leaving the enclosure. This procedure would replace the bucket containing a sponge and water that can harbour asbestos fibres. This would not be suitable for decontaminating wellington boots. – Action - Steve Sadley to prepare a draft mask decontamination memo that can be issued as part of a Multi Memo</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Speed Controller on NPU</p> <p>This issue was raised in January of 2011 and a memo was issued on the HSE's Asbestos Forum in June contents pasted below</p> <p>Important Information for asbestos licence holders on negative pressure units (NPU's or air movers)</p> <p>The following provides important detailed requirements for negative pressure units (NPU's or Air Movers)</p> <p>Part 2 (BS 8520-2:2009) "Negative pressure units. Specification"</p> <p>The predecessor of BS 8520-2 (PAS 60/2) was produced in 2004 following discussion with stakeholder groups. Although the manufacture of negative pressure units (NPU's) has previously met the expectation of the asbestos removal industry, no specifications or specific guidance existed. It was therefore felt that there was a need to provide the asbestos removal industry with a minimum specification to raise industry standards with particular attention to health and safety issues. It specifies requirements for portable and/or transportable NPU's incorporating HEPA filters covered by BS EN 1822 for use in the controlled removal of ACM's. It applies to NPU's designed to create negative pressure within a portable decontamination unit facility or working enclosure and two part NPU's. There is a detailed description of the components of a NPU in the standard.</p> <p>It has come to HSE's attention that NPU's are being supplied that do not meet BS 8520/2 specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A failure to provide a differential pressure monitor in the NPU so that a judgement can

	<p>be made as to whether a HEPA filter is blocked (high pressure differential) or split (low pressure differential)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A failure to provide non-return flaps to the NPU so that reverse air flow cannot occur when the system is switched off. <p>It is particularly important that differential pressure monitors are used and are checked on a daily basis. Partially blocked HEPA filters lead to diminished air flow and reduced negative air pressure in the enclosure. Split filters will lead to extensive contamination outside the enclosure.</p> <p>All NPUs therefore now require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differential pressure monitor • Non-return flap <p>The differential pressure monitor and non-return flap are specified in BS8520. They are required to ensure that the NPU functions correctly. They can be retro fitted to any NPU which does not have them. Therefore if an NPU does not meet this standard it should be modified accordingly or replaced by one that meets the standard. In a licensed industry it is expected that all licence holders will ensure their equipment meets BS8520 to avoid any potential enforcement or licence actions.</p> <p>HSE research is on-going with air changes and air movement through enclosures also under review is the Issues with the Negative Pressure Unit gauge and what it actually shows.</p>	
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Carbon Monoxide in Decontamination Units</p> <p>During a site visit in September the HSE inspected a decontamination unit and tested the level of Carbon Monoxide within the decontamination unit and found the level to be above the minimum safe level. On investigation it was discovered that the vent in the clean end external door did not meet minimum size requirements, it was found that the grill was the correct size however the opening behind the grill had not been cut out but instead holes had been drilled, the drilled holes did not allow enough air to be drawn into the unit to replace the air removed due to the NPU in the dirty end of the unit. To balance the airflow through the unit it is concluded that extra air was drawn into the unit from the boiler compartment. The HSE are awaiting a response from the manufacturer of the unit. Actions - Martin Gibson to prepare a draft ALG Memo on door vents and seals between boiler compartment and clean end of decontamination units.</p>	
<p>9.0</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Outside Man – The issue was raised at a recent ACAD technical committee meeting regarding clarification of the situation regarding the requirement to have an outside man posted outside an enclosure during asbestos removal works. Action - Terry Slater to review historical information and draft a document if the required information is not available.</p> <p>Suppliers - Recent issues with equipment including polythene thickness and supplier audits findings discussed. Action - Terry Slater to request a copy of a recent audit carried out on suppliers to better understand the current condition with suppliers and draft a letter highlighting current concerns.</p> <p>Analysts – During four stage clearance works it has been noted by clients that the appointed analyst for the work is not going through the decontamination unit but instead removing overalls and mask in the three stage airlock. Action - Martin Gibson to review the information and expand on in the New Analysts Guide.</p>	

	<p>Negative Pressure in Enclosures – The negative pressure in enclosure figure of 5 Pascals was discussed and the difficulty in maintaining this. Martin Gibson discussed the move away from the Pascals figure to more visible signs of negative pressure and air flow through the enclosure including pull on the flaps of the three stage air lock and the time taken to remove the smoke during the enclosure smoke test. The air movement and enclosure entry is currently the subject of a HSL investigation. Action - Martin Gibson to feedback information when available.</p>	
10	Date of Next Meeting	
	<p>18th or 19th of January 2012 to be held before the next ALG meeting</p> <p>All meetings are scheduled to start at 10:30am</p>	