



ASBESTOS HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM STANDARDS

for working with debris waste in Beirut

A. PPE REQUIREMENTS WHEN COMING INTO CONTACT WITH ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS

Personal protective clothing and equipment is an essential line of defence for minimising the risks presented by contact with asbestos when elimination and isolation of the hazard is not practicable.

WHAT IS PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)?

PPE is clothing or equipment which provides protection to the user from a potential hazard.

WHAT PPE MUST BE WORN WHEN ASBESTOS IS OR MAY BE PRESENT?

If asbestos or asbestos containing materials are present, or there is a possibility of presence, the following should be worn:

- **Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE)** should be used by those designated to handle asbestos whenever practicable – to avoid inhaling asbestos fibres
- **Overalls** (either disposable or able to be washed following each daily use) – to avoid the risk of carrying asbestos fibres away from the worksite on clothing
- **Footwear** – appropriate for the work being undertaken

WHAT PPE IS REQUIRED

- Figure 1 shows the necessary full PPE required when working to clear ACMs.
- Disposable overalls should be Type 5/6 (relevant standard BS EN ISO 13982+A1).
- Gloves should be Type 5/6 single use and be appropriately disposed of at the end of each day.
- Footwear should be solid sole, ankle high wherever possible. Non-laced pull-on footwear is preferable as these are easier to clean.
- Disposable overshoes should be used if non-laced footwear is not available.
- Disposable overalls, gloves and overshoes should be treated as hazardous and disposed of with other asbestos waste.



Figure 1: PPE requirements when working with asbestos



Figure 2: Full face covering

Figure 2 shows the type of mask, covering the whole face, which should be used by those working significant amounts of time with or in close proximity to ACMs. Full face masks should conform to BS EN 136 standard with P3 filter.



Figure 3: Reusable face covering

If a full-face mask is not available, then a face mask (applicable standard EN140 with P3 filter) covering nose and mouth should be used.



Figure 4: Basic disposable face covering

- Figure 4 shows the minimum standard face mask that must be used by anyone working with or near ACMs if higher level masks are not available.
- The mask used should be of FFP3 or FMP3 standard and should be used at all times when in close proximity to ACMs.
- After usage, the mask should be properly disposed of at the end of each day and a new mask worn the following working day.



Figure 5: Safety goggles

Should one of the masks shown in Figure 3 or 4 be used, then it is recommended that safety goggles are used, meeting BS EN 166 standard) as shown in Figure 5.