

Asbestos Network Technical Working Group (ANTWG)	
Minutes of the meeting held on the 10 Dec 2025 via MS Teams	
<p>Present: Sam Lord (SL) HSE Specialist Division /Chair/Minutes Heather Campbell (HC) HSE Specialist Division Juliette Church (JC) ACAD Nick Garland (NG) FAAM Committee/Assure 360 Jonathan Grant (JG) BOHS-FAAM Gareth Jones (GJ) UKATA Steve Sadley (SS) ARCA Eddie Strong (ES) AMI Graham Warren (GW) ASES Steve Watkins (SW) Independent Industry Rep Wayne Williams (WW) IATP Alex Painter (AP) NORAC</p> <p>Apologies: Martin Saunders (MS) HSE Science Division</p> <p>Note: These minutes are a note of the discussions had on the date of the meeting. Some items will be discussed over a number of meetings. Taking one set of minutes in isolation may not reflect the final position and readers need to be aware of this. As and when a final position is reached this will be made clear within the relevant minute item.</p>	
1	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies:</p> <p>SL welcomed all attendees to the meeting and an extended welcome to Alex Painter (AP) who has replaced CW following her stepping down from NORAC and Juliette Church (JC) who will be replacing TD representing ACAD.</p> <p>Apologies were received from MS.</p>
2	<p>Minutes of ANTWG meeting (No.48) and acceptance:</p> <p>The minutes from May 2025 (No. 48) meeting were finalised and accepted. Action: Minutes to be sent to AsbNet members via AsbNet Secretariat. (SL)</p>
3	<p>Matters/actions arising from Meeting No.48 May 2025</p>
3.1	<p>Terms of Reference for the TWG</p> <p>Members were asked to provide feedback on Version 1.2 (dated August 25) of the TORs and agreed that needed to include content on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of draft appendices with member’s organisations to gain feedback • Read across to Asbestos Network TORs, including that the TWG minutes and appendices will be ratified at the Asbestos Network meetings. <p>Action: Add the above points and share Version 1.3 with the group. (SL)</p>

<p>3.2</p>	<p>Scott Pro-Flow Mask (now 3M powered air turbo PF-602E-ASB) – issue with P3 filter cartridges coming loose during use reported by a number of TWG members so not an isolated issue.</p> <p>HSE’s Product Safety Team (PST) met with a (3M Representative) via teams on 8 July 2025. PST were satisfied that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The product had undergone the correct conformity assessment procedure and meets the relevant standard regarding means of filter attachment. • 3M have production controls in place including testing each unit before dispatch. <p>3M confirmed that they have sold thousands of units and have not been made aware of any incidents. 3M are keen to be appraised of any specific incidents in future. If HSE or TWG members become aware of any future anecdotal information, please obtain more detail from the notifier.</p> <p>Action: To add this update to the ‘clarified points’ document draft (HC)</p>
<p>3.3</p>	<p>Compliance of DCUs with current health and safety legislation as a welfare provision.</p> <p>Background: Concerns were raised regarding the welfare of persons using decontamination units (DCUs), due to evidence of unacceptable physical / sexual abuse and unwanted behaviour in the industry. A query was brought to the TWG by CW regarding the compliance of DCUs with current health and safety legislation as a welfare provision. The following response has been agreed with HSE’s policy lead for construction site welfare:</p> <p>Most DCUs are capable of being locked from the inside of the DCU when occupied. However, this system can often be bypassed from the outside, generally, using a code operated keypad, which most of the site operatives are aware of, or are often the same code based on the supplier.</p> <p>There is an acknowledgment that bypassing locking mechanisms poses a risk of unwanted behaviour, allowing access to be gained to the DCU, whilst persons are in a potentially vulnerable state (a state of undress/ showering etc). This is a management issue for those operating the site, to consider in their risk assessment, to safeguard all persons using welfare.</p> <p>DCUs which are lockable from the inside are compliant with H&S legislation (Construction, Design & Management (CDM) Regulations 2015 and The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992) however, as a result of cases of unwanted behaviour / sexual and physical abuse from persons bypassing locking mechanisms, the ANTWG agree that best practice should be followed, to safeguard persons using DCUs wherever possible.</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk assessing requirements for full decontamination by persons not conducting stripping work

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilising DCUs which have been fitted with additional safeguards (e.g. upgraded alarm systems, additional internal locking facilities and occupation warning lights) Changing the lock code on DCUs to limit the persons able to bypass the locking device, so they are managed by the site supervisor <p>The Analyst Welfare Guidance provides additional information on this issue: ANALYST WELFARE GUIDANCE CONIAC</p>
4	Appendices
4.1	Maintaining and Checking Enclosure Integrity (Leak Testing and Smoke Testing)
	<p>Summarised discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General consensus that more monitoring and analyst presence during removal jobs would have a positive effect on working practices and demonstration of enclosure integrity. Points made regarding the feasibility of analytical presence for leaks throughout <u>all</u> removal jobs. Questions regarding whether removal operatives external to the enclosure are considered occupants of a building, therefore requiring leak testing. (AP, SS, GW) Tapered approach based on risk to leak testing suggested (e.g., every other day). Mention of HSL research regarding leaks, (GW) and evidence base for elevated fibre levels, benefits of data being captured on leaks. (JG) Key comments regarding leak testing based on risk, and merits to risk assessment. (Examples provided of high-risk jobs for leaks, spray coating, outside riles, lots of penetrations etc). (SS) Suggestion of further information on what should be done if a smoke test cannot be conducted, also what about air changes (timing etc) (JC) Some missing elements were considered important – de facto statement and CDM duties (SS) GW – Original premise considered; a level commercial playing field is key. Leaks should be done where appropriate. <p>Action: Sticking points – email out ‘options’ to move the appendix to a point of completion (SL)</p>
4.2	Restricted (space) enclosures
	<p>Summarised discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Scope of the document:</u> limited space in/ around enclosure which may result in the restricting of enclosure size / air / bag lock size etc, social housing being of particular concern to original author. Document may assist LARCs in client tender / planning. (JC) Query the necessity of the appendix as much of the content is within existing guidance. Not seeing a large issue in the field. (SS / NG) Information on the issues with flap deflection in restricted size airlocks more of a source of issue (GW)

	Action: To review the document and highlight parts already in guidance (particularly HSG247) and circulate, to assist in deciding whether this should be an appendix or clarification points within meeting minutes (JC)
5	The Appendix status table was updated (see end).
6	AOB
6.1	SL reminded the TWG about the CAR12 consultation open until 9 th Jan 26 and encouraged participation as this is now the opportunity for formal feedback, building on from previous informal feedback opportunities which members contributed to earlier on in the year– HSE seeks views on proposals to enhance worker and public protection from asbestos exposure – HSE Media Centre JG informed TWG that FAAM were holding a webinar next week to collate the views of FAAM and shared the link.
6.2	Is there a need for an enclosure ventilation proforma/template? SL
6.3	Industry Feedback: Vision panels in waste van compartments? SL
6.4	6 month TEXT for wet injection equipment? SL
	Items 6.2 – 6.4 pushed to next meeting, as will NG’s AOB re: calculating NPU airflow appendix.
7	Date of Next Meeting:
	09 th Feb 2026 10:00-12:00 via MS Teams

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Appendices in Draft: Status Update (Dec 2025)

Appendix Title	Lead Author	Proposed Completion Date	Current Status	Additional resource required on T&F basis?
Maintaining and Checking Enclosure Integrity (Leak Testing and Smoke Testing)	SS	Feb 26	Aug 24 - Initial draft completed by SS for review and consideration of scope and content. Nov 24 – initial draft discussed Jan 25 – Version 4 draft discussed. May 25 – V10 draft discussed. Appendix to add from MS, and final amendments.	No
Restricted (space) enclosures	JC	April 26	Jan 25 – TD agreed to produce an initial draft to incorporate scope as discussed. May 25 – TD agreed to review current draft in mini-group and feedback July meeting.	No
Licensed removal with no enclosure	GW	April 26	Feb 23 - SL to confirm the position set out by HSE Inspector has not changed and that written advice from an HSE inspector to be used as the basis of a draft Appendix. Glovebag use to be incorporated into this Appendix. Oct 24 – GW volunteered to lead on this appendix.	No
‘Outside Man’ Requirements	SW	April 26	Nov 24 – agreed a need for a short appendix	No
NPU Connection & Disconnection	SS	ON HOLD	Sept 22 – HSE comments to be incorporated into Appendix for discussion at Nov meeting	
Abrasive Blasting Removal Systems – revision only	SL	ON HOLD	March 22 - Members to provide details of current use of abrasive blasting including intel on dry ice systems. July 22 – Needle scalers to be included in the revision – intel being gathered.	
Calculating NPU airflow – revision only	SL	ON HOLD	July 22 - Revision to include additional guidance for LARCs on selection and use of an anemometer.	
Independence of Analysts	SL	ON HOLD	Drafting to start in August 22 – scope to include issues of DCU certs not being issued to LARCs if they are not appointed by them and also Personal Monitoring on behalf of the LARC	
Selection and Use of Encapsulants	SW	ON HOLD	Scope and content to be agreed by TWG in Sept 22 Initial draft discussed at Nov 22 meeting	

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Equipment to measure differential pressure	SL	ON HOLD	Intelligence being gathered from LARCs who use this equipment by SS and SW.	

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