

BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPERIEUR

Groupement 15

session 2006

ANGLAIS

Durée : 2 h

- SUJET -

Dès la remise du sujet, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.

L'usage du dictionnaire bilingue est autorisé.

Spécialités :

Agencement de l'environnement
architectural
Aménagement - finition
Bâtiment
Charpente - couverture
Constructions métalliques
Enveloppe du bâtiment
Études et économie de la construction
Géomètre topographe
Systèmes constructifs bois et habitat
Travaux publics

THE LOWDOWN ON ASBESTOS

Asbestos was used extensively as a building material in GB from the 1950s through to the mid 1980s. Although some of this material has been removed over the years, there are many thousands of tons of asbestos still present in buildings.

It is estimated that over half a million non-domestic premises currently have some form of asbestos in them. There is extensive repair and removal work, which will continue for the foreseeable future. Tackling the problem of asbestos is a huge undertaking, but the HSE¹ regards it as one of its highest priorities.

The duty to manage asbestos in non-domestic premises became law on 21 May 2004. All those who have responsibility for the maintenance or repair of non-domestic buildings have duties under this regulation. The duty holder may be the landlord, tenant or occupier depending on the circumstances of the case.

The duty does not require the removal of all asbestos materials except where they are in such poor condition that they give rise to a serious risk. If the material is in good condition and will not be disturbed then it does not pose such a risk, and it should be left in place and the situation managed. Removing any such material would give rise to unnecessary risk and expense.

The regulations do not require a full survey to be carried out of all buildings by an independent surveyor. It allows smaller organisations to carry out inspections themselves, often finding it easier to presume a material is asbestos and then act accordingly. A little bit of detective work, for example by studying existing plans or contacting architects or contractors who know the premises well, will often reveal whether a material is likely to contain asbestos without the need for expensive analysis of samples.

To raise awareness of the duty to manage and to help duty holders take advantage of this flexible approach to compliance, HSE has produced a range of guidance material which can be found on its website.

Estatesreview.com, Aug/Sep 2005

¹ HSE: Health and Safety Executive

TRAVAIL DEMANDÉ

I. COMPREHENSION (10 points)

Rédigez en français un compte-rendu du texte d'environ 200 mots (plus ou moins dix pour cent)

II. EXPRESSION (10 points)

Répondez en anglais à la question en environ 200 mots :

Explain why asbestos is such a serious problem nowadays in countries such as France or Great Britain.