

<b>Title</b>	<b>Demonstrate knowledge of asbestos and safety measures for asbestos-related work</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>2</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is for people whose work may bring them into contact with asbestos.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– asbestos and associated health risk; and</li> <li>– measures to protect people doing asbestos-related work against asbestos exposure risk.</li> </ul>
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<b>Classification</b>	Occupational Health and Safety > Hazardous Substances and Materials
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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## Guidance Information

### 1 References

AS/NZS 1715:2009 *Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment*,

AS/NZS 1716:2012 *Respiratory protective devices*, available at

<http://www.standards.govt.nz>;

Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;

Health and Safety at Work (Asbestos) Regulations 2016;

Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016;

Resource Management Act 1991;

WorkSafe New Zealand (2016) *Approved Code of Practice for the Management and Removal of Asbestos*, which is available at <http://www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe>; and all subsequent amendments and replacements.

### 2 Other references applicable to this unit standard may include but are not limited to:

Building Act 2004;

Health Act 1956;

Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006;

Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Regulations 2010;

The following standards, which are available at <http://www.standards.govt.nz>:

AS/NZS 1547:2012 *On-site domestic wastewater management*,

AS/NZS 1546.1:2008 *On-site domestic wastewater treatment units – Septic tanks*,

AS/NZS 3500.2:2018 *Plumbing and drainage – Part 2: Sanitary plumbing and drainage*;

The following guides, which are available at <http://www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe>:

*Excavation Safety – Good Practice Guidelines,*

*Underground Services – Guide for Safety with Underground Services;*

The following clauses, and any related compliance documents, which are available at <https://www.building.govt.nz>:

New Zealand Building Code Clause E1 Surface water,

New Zealand Building Code Clause F2 Hazardous building materials,

New Zealand Building Code Clause G12 Water supplies,

New Zealand Building Code Clause G13 Foul water;

and all subsequent amendments and replacements.

3 Recommended resources to support this unit standard

WorkSafe BC: *Asbestos*, available at

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/health-safety/videos/asbestos?lang=en>.

WorkSafe New Zealand fact sheets: *Respiratory Protective Equipment – Advice for workers*, available at [http://manufacturing.worksafe.govt.nz/fact-sheets/respiratory-](http://manufacturing.worksafe.govt.nz/fact-sheets/respiratory-protective-equipment-advice-for-employees/)

[protective-equipment-advice-for-employees/](http://manufacturing.worksafe.govt.nz/fact-sheets/respiratory-protective-equipment-advice-for-employees/); and *Respiratory Protective Equipment – Advice for persons conducting a business or undertaking*, available at

<http://manufacturing.worksafe.govt.nz/fact-sheets/respiratory-protective-equipment-advice-for-employers/>.

4 Definitions

*ACOP* refers to the WorkSafe New Zealand (2016) *Approved Code of Practice for the Management and Removal of Asbestos*.

*Asbestos* refers to asbestos and to asbestos containing materials (ACM) and asbestos-contaminated dust or debris (ACD).

*Asbestos-related work* means work involving asbestos (other than licensed asbestos removal). For the purpose of this unit standard *work* can cover any activity, paid or unpaid, that could disturb asbestos.

*Respiratory risk* refers to the risk, to oneself and others, of inhaling asbestos fibres.

5 For those engaged in licensed asbestos removal under the Health and Safety at Work (Asbestos) Regulations 2016 the following unit standards apply:

29765, *Remove non-friable asbestos*, (Level 4),

29766, *Remove friable asbestos* (Level 4),

29767, *Supervise asbestos removal* (Level 5), and

29768, *Conduct asbestos assessment associated with removal* (Level 6).

6 Asbestos may be in the ground or may be present in or with applications such as: aircraft, brake linings, ceiling coatings, cladding, display of artefacts, downpipes, fire protection, flame retardation, flashings, flues, friction linings, gas or electric heaters, fuse boxes, gaskets, guttering, insulating board, lagging around pipes, maritime vessels, motor vehicles, noise barriers, roofing, sewer pipes, sprayed insulation, water mains.

7 Activities with risk of exposure to airborne asbestos fibres may involve supplying, transporting, storing, removing, handling, treating, disposing of, or disturbing asbestos. Examples are: automotive repair, building maintenance, building survey, computer installing, construction, demolition, drainlaying, electrical work, emergency response, excavation, fire/burglar alarm installing, fitting and turning, gasfitting, heating and ventilation installation, home improvement, horticulture, joinery, laundering, meter reading, mining, painting and decorating, plastering, plumbing,

police work, regulatory inspection, real estate selling, roofing, shop-fitting, and telecommunication installation.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of asbestos and associated health risk.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Explain how to distinguish friable from non-friable asbestos.
- 1.2 Identify asbestos products and uses.
- 1.3 Explain the terms 'asbestos-related work', 'unlicensed asbestos removal work', and 'licensed asbestos removal work' in accordance with the ACOP.
- 1.4 Describe asbestos fibre respiratory entry into humans and resultant health consequences.
- 1.5 Explain heightened disease risk for smokers exposed to respirable asbestos.
- 1.6 Explain how the imperceptibility of airborne asbestos fibres can adversely affect risk perception and decisions made for protection.

### Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of measures to control respiratory risk for people doing asbestos-related work.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 Explain legal rights and responsibilities to control respiratory risk for people doing asbestos-related work.  
  
Range these legal rights and responsibilities relate to – identification and risk assessment, notification, isolation, records and worker access to records, planning, asbestos awareness training, training and support in safe work practices as a control measure, environmental protection, and health monitoring.
- 2.2 Describe safe work practices for asbestos-related work.  
  
Range these safe work practices relate to – asbestos control equipment, personal protective equipment, personal respiratory equipment consistent with AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716, work area preparation, the work itself, work area and equipment decontamination, personal decontamination and laundering, and waste containment and disposal.

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<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2022
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	26 October 2017	N/A
Revision	2	22 August 2019	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0121
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact The Skills Organisation at [reviewcomments@skills.org.nz](mailto:reviewcomments@skills.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.