Removing a door with asbestos insulating board (AIB) fireproofing

What this sheet covers

This sheet describes good practice when you need to dispose of a door backed with AIB. It is also suitable where AIB is sandwiched within the door.

This sheet is not appropriate:

- for the removal of an AIB panel (see sheet a4);
- for the disposal of a door with more than minor damage to the AIB;
- if work lasts more than one hour for one worker in a seven-day period, or exceeds two hours for two or more workers in a seven-day period.

Use an HSE-licensed contractor for such work.

Please note: If the AIB starts to deteriorate on removal of the nails then the work may be notifiable non-licensed work (NNLW); see sheet a0 Introduction to asbestos essentials.

Preparing the work area

- Restrict access – minimise the number of people present.
- Close doors. Use tape and notices to warn others.
- Ensure adequate lighting.

Equipment

- 1000-gauge polythene sheeting and duct tape
- Warning tape and notices
- Sealant, eg polyvinyl acetate (PVA)
- Screwdriver
- Non-asbestos replacement fire door
- Garden-type sprayer containing wetting agent, eg diluted washing-up liquid
- Bucket of water and rags
- Asbestos waste bag
- Clear polythene bag
- Asbestos warning stickers
Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Provide:
  - disposable overalls fitted with a hood;
  - boots without laces (laced boots are hard to decontaminate).
- A respirator is not normally required.

Procedure

- If unpainted, spray the board with PVA sealant.
- If the board is within the door, spray all exposed edges.
- Allow it to dry.
- Lay enough polythene sheeting on the floor to wrap up the door.
- Unscrew the door from its hinges and lower it onto the polythene sheet.
- Double-wrap the door with polythene sheeting and secure with duct tape.
- Attach asbestos warning stickers.
- If necessary, fit a replacement door with the same fire protection properties.

Cleaning and disposal

- Clean the equipment and area with damp rags.
- Put debris, used rags, polythene sheeting and other waste in the asbestos waste bag and tape it closed.
- Put the asbestos waste bag in a clear polythene bag and tape it closed.
- Disposal – see sheet em9.

Personal decontamination

See sheet em8.

Clearance and checking off

- Visually inspect the area to make sure that it has been cleaned properly.
- Clearance air sampling is not normally required.
- Get the premises owner, dutyholder or client to check off the job.