August 2017

Locations of asbestos in commercial buildings

Asbestos can be located in a variety of places in a commercial building. As it’s a fire-resistant and hard-wearing material, it is commonly found in places that may get hot or wet.

This includes:
- The centre of fire doors
- Interior and exterior walls
- Flooring, especially lino flooring in wet areas (bathrooms, laundry, toilet, kitchen)
- Roofs
- Hot water tanks
- Insulation and lagging
- Gutters and downpipes
- Lift ropes and lift shafts
- Ceilings
- Electrical fuse boards
- Water pipes internally
- Around windows and door frames.

Asbestos can also be found as part of fencing, pipes running water to the building, and in soil. It could even hide in telecommunications or electrical pits.

The image on the back of the fact sheet may help you identify any asbestos in your building.

If you are in doubt as to whether a part of your building contains asbestos or not, err on the side of caution and assume it does.

If you think that there is asbestos in your building then download our management plan fact sheet which will help you manage your duties under the Health and Safety at Work (Asbestos) Regulations.

Compressed sheet flooring
‘Super Six’, ‘Super Eight’ or architectural designed wall cladding
ACM wall sheeting or compressed sheeting
‘Super Six’ awning
Vinyl floor tiles or sheet vinyl floor coverings

Gutters
Window moulding and louvre blades
‘Super Six’, ‘Super Eight’ roof sheeting

Asbestos cement vent pipe and capping
Fluted ridge capping used on plain roll, fluted saddle ridge, sawtooth ridge capping and ventilating ridge

Window moulding and louvre blades

Barge moulding

 ACM sheeting or ceiling tiles used in the office area, kitchen, toilet walls or mezzanine area

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Roof ventilators
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