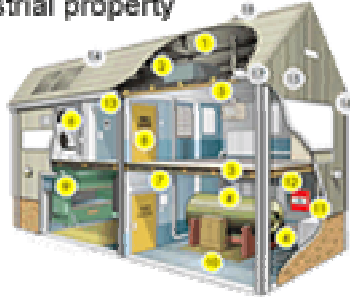


# **Asbestos – A Hidden Killer**

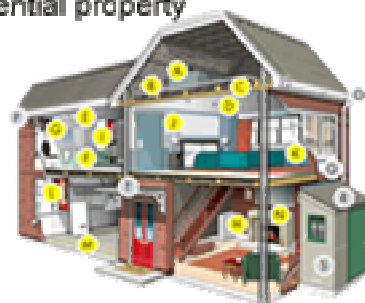
**Asbestos kills around 20 people who work in trades each week – How lucky do you feel?**

You'd be surprised where it lurks – at work and at home!

Industrial property



Residential property



**4000 people die of asbestos related diseases every year**

**2538 deaths in 2013 due to mesothelioma**

**217 deaths in 2013 where asbestosis was recorded as an underlying cause**

**2215 new cases of mesothelioma assessed in 2014 (for the IIDB)**

**The HSE have already had 3 successful prosecutions in 2016 where asbestos has not been managed properly, or has been discovered by chance.**

(Facts and figures from HSE.gov.uk and from Darren Evans at the Health and Wellbeing at Work Conference 2016)

## **So, what do you need to do?**

1. If you don't know if asbestos is present, assume it is until you know otherwise and act accordingly
2. Keep up to date records, including an asbestos survey and an asbestos register
3. Assess the risk of exposure from ACM (asbestos containing materials)
4. Have a written asbestos management plan

## **Managing Risks**

1. Survey
2. Material Assessments
3. Asbestos Register
4. Risk Assessments
5. Management Plan
6. Annual Review

## **Asbestos Survey**

1. Is it suitable and sufficient?
2. When was it carried out? (If old, consider having it redone)

3. Who carried it out? (Are they ISO 17020 accredited?)
4. Could there be a conflict of interests? (Was it carried out by an independent company or by an asbestos removal contractor?)

### **Asbestos Register**

1. Is it up to date?
2. Is it easy to understand?
3. Is it readily available for staff and contractors who might need it?
4. Is it updated when work is carried out? (e.g. abatement works)
5. Is the document itself suitably controlled?

### **Managing Asbestos**

1. Is your Asbestos Register available and up to date? (see above)
2. Are arrangements in place to monitor the conditions of the ACM periodically?
3. Do you have a formal annual review in place?
4. Have you identified the person(s) responsible for managing the asbestos risk? (Are they competent and qualified?)
5. Have you got emergency procedures and contingency arrangements in place in case they are needed and are the systems robustly tested and known to everyone who needs them?