

BOHS P401 – IDENTIFICATION OF ASBESTOS IN BULK SAMPLES (PLM)

What is the objective?

To provide candidates with theoretical and practical knowledge in the techniques of asbestos sample identification using polarised light microscopy (PLM) and dispersion staining techniques.

Who is it for?

- Asbestos bulk analysts and laboratory analysts.
- Anyone who manages asbestos analysts or requires a deeper understanding of the asbestos analysis process (e.g. laboratory quality manager).

What are the entry requirements?

- At least one month's work experience in analysing asbestos bulk samples (desirable but not compulsory)
- An understanding of HSG248 Asbestos: The analysts' guide for sampling, analysis and clearance procedures

What are the main subject areas?

- Asbestos fibres.
- Set-up and use of a polarised light microscope.
- Analysis of bulk samples.
- Practical work.

Note: This qualification does not cover analysis of asbestos in soils which is covered separately in P408. P401 is a pre-requisite course for P408.

How long does it take?

Normally 3 days.

What level is it?

Level 4 in the BOHS qualifications framework.

How do candidates pass it?

Candidates must pass three parts within 12 months:

- Formative practical assessment.
- Written Theory examination.
- Practical examination.