



National
Operational
Guidance

Hazard

**Exposure to materials with acute
health effects**



NFCC
Fire Central
Programme Office

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



Contents

Hazard - Exposure to materials with acute health effects	3
<i>Control measure - Substance identification: Toxic materials</i>	3
<i>Control measure - Cordon controls: Toxic materials</i>	4
<i>Control measure - Containment: Toxic materials</i>	5
<i>Control measure - Safe method of work: Asbestos</i>	6



Hazard - Exposure to materials with acute health effects

Knowledge and understanding

Hazard

Exposure to materials with acute health effects

Learning outcome

Understand all associated hazard knowledge



Control measure - Substance identification: Toxic materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Gather information and recognise symbols, labels and other marking to identify toxic materials

Learning outcome

Understand:

- Classification and labelling of toxic materials
- Signage identifying the presence of toxic materials
- Triangulation of information to confirm toxic material

Refer to – Substance identification – Hazardous materials training specification

Practical application



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Gather information and recognise symbols, labels and other marking to identify toxic materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use signs, labels and markings to identify the presence of toxic materials
- Identify and interpret toxic materials incident information and where appropriate use detection equipment
- Use specialist advice to identify toxic materials information

Refer to – Substance identification – Hazardous materials training specification



Control measure - Cordon controls: Toxic materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Recognise the involvement of toxic materials and implement appropriate cordons

Understand:

- The importance of initial cordon controls to reduce exposure and contamination
- Instances when evacuation or shelter-in-place are necessary
- Limits and levels of exposure guidance to assist with tactical decisions
- Monitoring and/or modelling to determine protective actions
- Health monitoring protocols for people affected by toxic materials

Refer to – [Cordon controls – operations training specification](#)



Practical application

Control measure element

Recognise the involvement of toxic materials and implement appropriate cordons

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish safe control and effective management of resources and the public
- Assess and monitor the effect of weather on airborne toxic materials
- Apply health surveillance procedures to monitor exposed responders

Refer to – [Cordon controls – operations training specification](#)



Control measure - Containment: Toxic materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Contain toxic materials

Learning outcome

Understand:

- Key factors that determine how toxic substances are contained
- Alternative methods of managing toxic substances that cannot be contained
- Key properties that affect behaviour of toxic:
 - Solids
 - Liquids
 - Vapours

Refer to – [Containment – Environmental training specification](#)

Practical application



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Contain toxic materials

- Demonstrate the ability to:
- Assess the impact of a toxic substance release
 - Liaise with a specialist adviser to determine suitable methods of containment
 - Apply effective techniques to contain toxic substances
 - Reduce vapourisation by appropriate means
 - Effectively manage the mixing of toxic materials, containment systems and water
- Refer to – [Containment – Environmental training specification](#)



Control measure - Safe method of work: Asbestos

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Apply Health and Safety Executive (HSE) approved safe methods of work once it is established asbestos is involved in an incident

- Understand:
- The common use of asbestos materials in buildings and structures
 - The three-step asbestos hazard identification process
 - The actions which should be taken in an asbestos work area
 - The precautions to be taken as part of the work method for asbestos containing materials
 - Fire and rescue service locally agreed safe method of work for asbestos incidents



Practical application

Control measure element

Apply Health and Safety Executive (HSE) approved safe methods of work once it is established asbestos is involved in an incident

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and assess the risk from asbestos materials:
 - Three-step hazard identification process
- Instigate asbestos procedures
 - HSE agreed method of working