



Report
Round 56
July 2015



Asbestos In Material Scheme

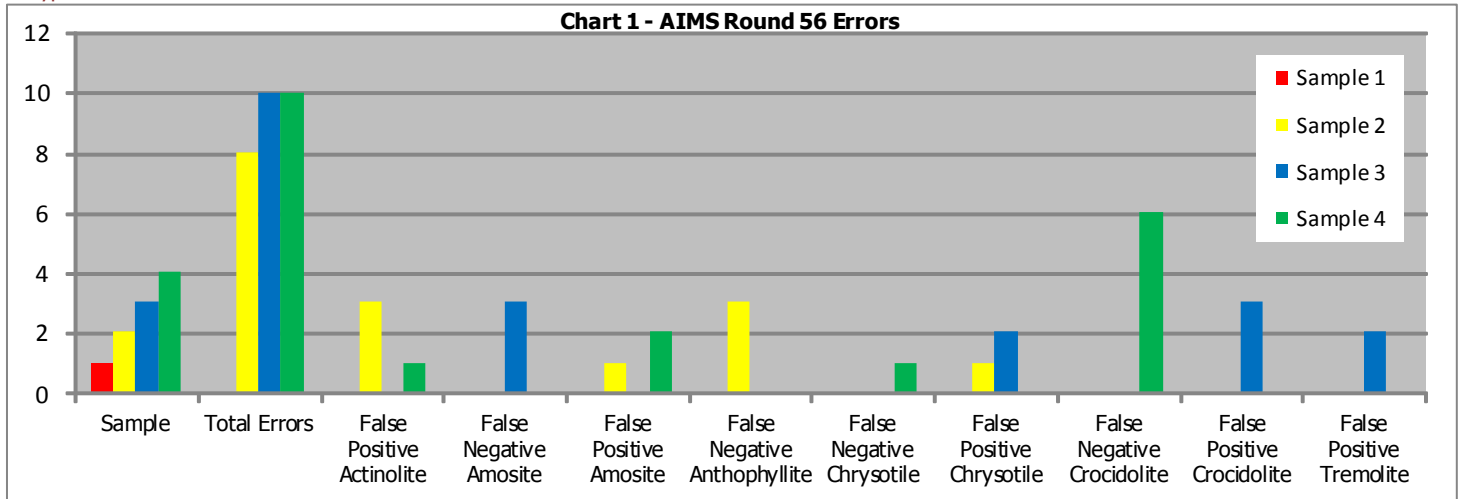
Asbestos In Materials (AIMS) Scheme

Round 56 Sample Details

All samples were prepared for circulation following our normal validation process and were scanned using stereo-zoom microscopy to assess homogeneity and suitability for the round. 10% of all samples prepared for the round were analysed and validated by 14 independent laboratories using PLM analytical techniques. All of the validation laboratories identified all of the asbestos components present in the samples. No additional asbestos components were found in any of the 10% of samples that were validated. The majority of errors from round 56 were obtained for Sample 3 & 4. The round was judged to be straightforward and gave a balance between commercial and manufactured samples. There were few errors overall.

Sample	Validation Number	Product Type	Target Component
1	241	Insulation/ Gasket (Commercial)	No Asbestos
2	246	Chalk (Manufactured)	Anthophyllite
3	247	Cistern (Commercial)	Amosite
4	248	Cement (Manufactured)	Chrysotile & Crocidolite

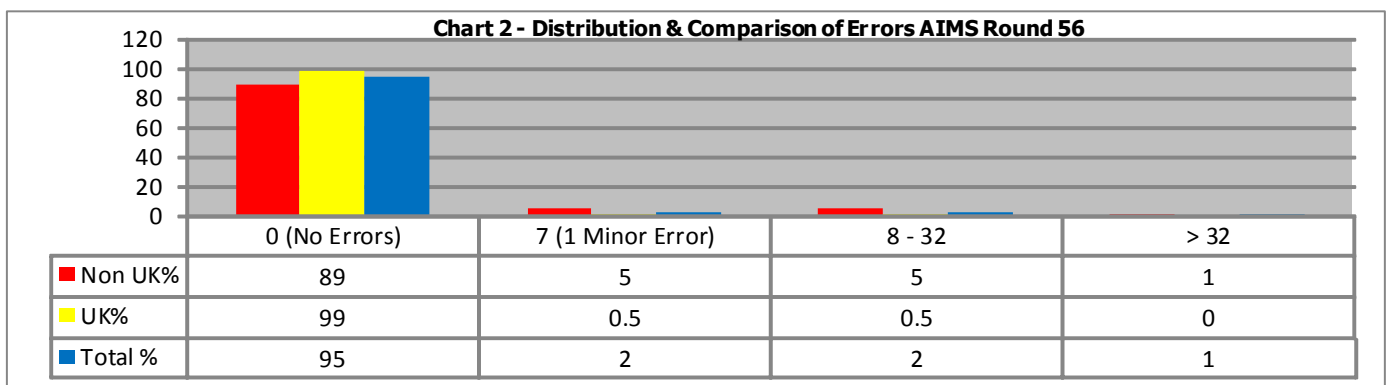
1. Type Of Errors Obtained



False Negative = Component has been missed. False Positive = Component has been incorrectly identified as present.

2. Round Scores

Chart 2 illustrates the distribution of scores for all participating laboratories. 296 (95%) laboratories obtained a score of zero in this round, indicating that these laboratories had not made any errors. The distribution of scores obtained by UK (United Kingdom) and Non-UK laboratories is also compared; 178 (99%) UK laboratories and 118 (89%) Non-UK laboratories obtained a score of zero for the round.





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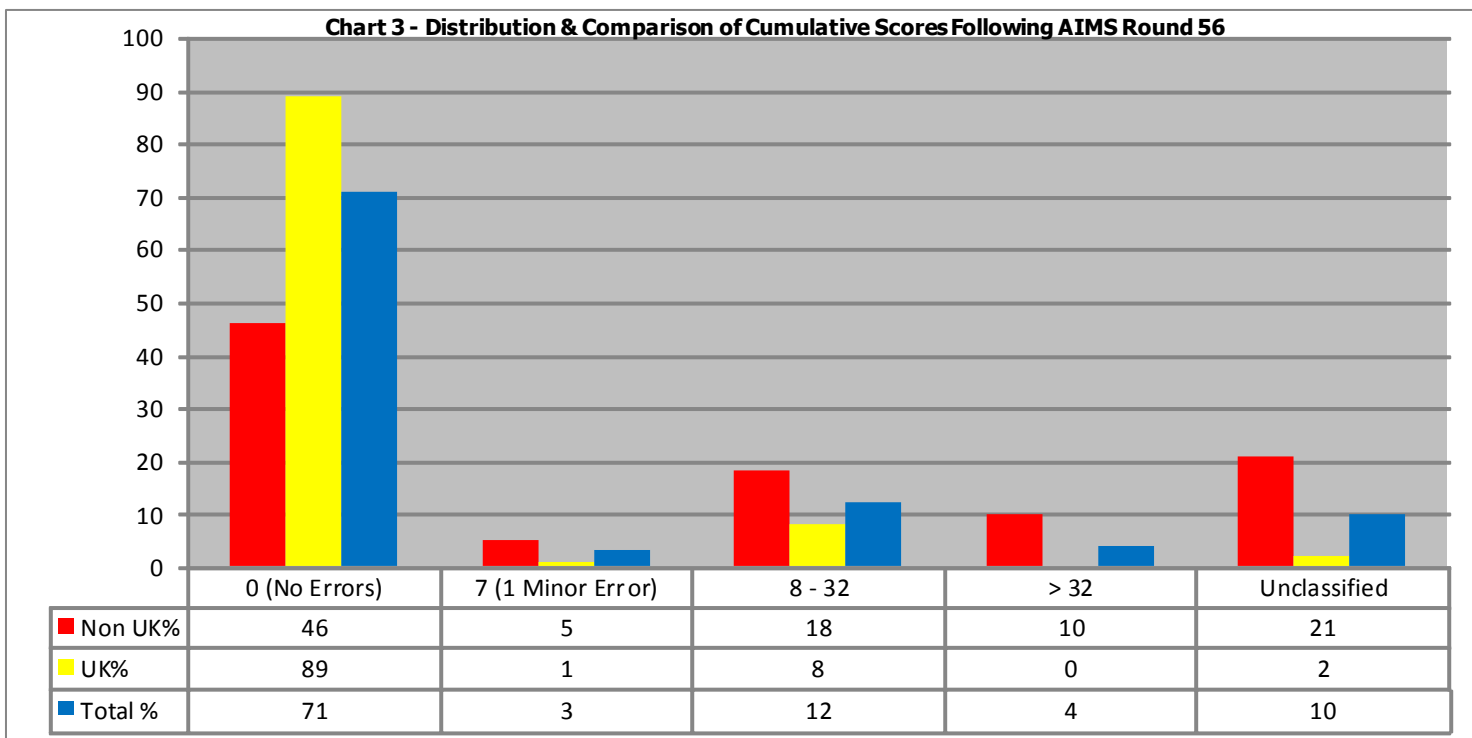
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Chart 3 shows the percentage distribution of cumulative three round scores for all UK and Non-UK laboratories.

31 laboratories (10%) in total had not yet completed 3 rounds and therefore did not accumulate a score.

Following this round, 233 laboratories (74%) obtained a good cumulative score (0 – 7 penalty points cumulatively). 38 laboratories (12%) obtained an acceptable cumulative score (8 – 32 penalty points cumulatively) and 13 laboratories (4%) obtained an unsatisfactory cumulative score (33 or more penalty points cumulatively).



3. For Your Information - AIMS NEWS !!

The first surveillance visit by UKAS was carried out at the beginning of May 2015 - which seemed very soon after gaining accreditation! We had a few minor actions to complete, but overall the assessment went very well. The PT team feel the accreditation process is helping to focus our efforts on maintaining and improving the scheme, which ensures we offer the best possible service to our participants. If you have any comments/ suggestions regarding AIMS, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Participants are now able to purchase individual AIMS samples from past rounds, which can be used for internal QC/ training purposes. You are able to choose the type of material/ asbestos type from samples which we have available. If you are interested in purchasing these samples, please send an email to the PT team requesting an order form.

The next round of AIMS is due to be despatched week commencing 7th September 2015.

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