



Report
Round 49
MARCH 2013



Asbestos In Material Scheme

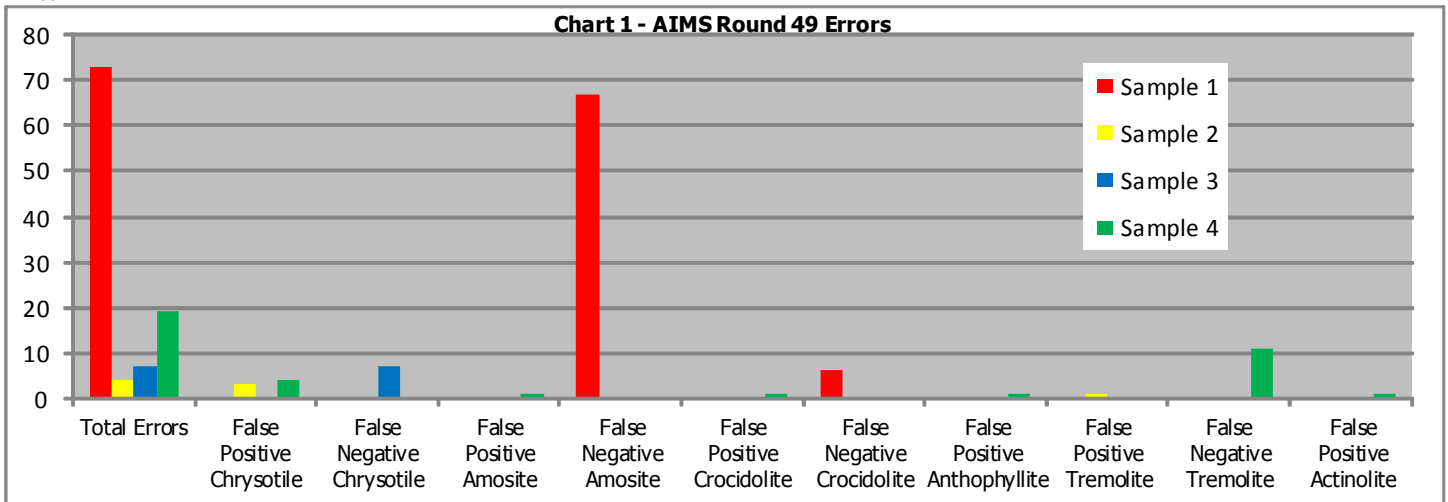
Asbestos In Materials (AIMS) Scheme

Round 49 Sample Details

| Sample | Validation Number | Product Type | Target Component |
|--------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 209 | Cement | Chrysotile, Amosite, Crocidolite |
| 2 | 208 | Board | No Asbestos |
| 3 | 204 | Vinyl Floor Tile | Chrysotile |
| 4 | 207 | Plaster | Tremolite |

Round 49 of AIMS was completed on 22nd February 2013. In total, 273 laboratories participated in the round and there were 184 (67%) UK laboratories and 89 (33%) Non-UK laboratories. 251 (92% of total AIMS participants) laboratories have participated in enough rounds (according to the scheme protocol) to obtain a cumulative score (3 month rolling score). Following the validation process, Round 49 was judged to be of standard complexity and suitability, with a range of sample types including two of the four samples that were commercially produced / imported and would be seen from time to time in routine analytical jobs.

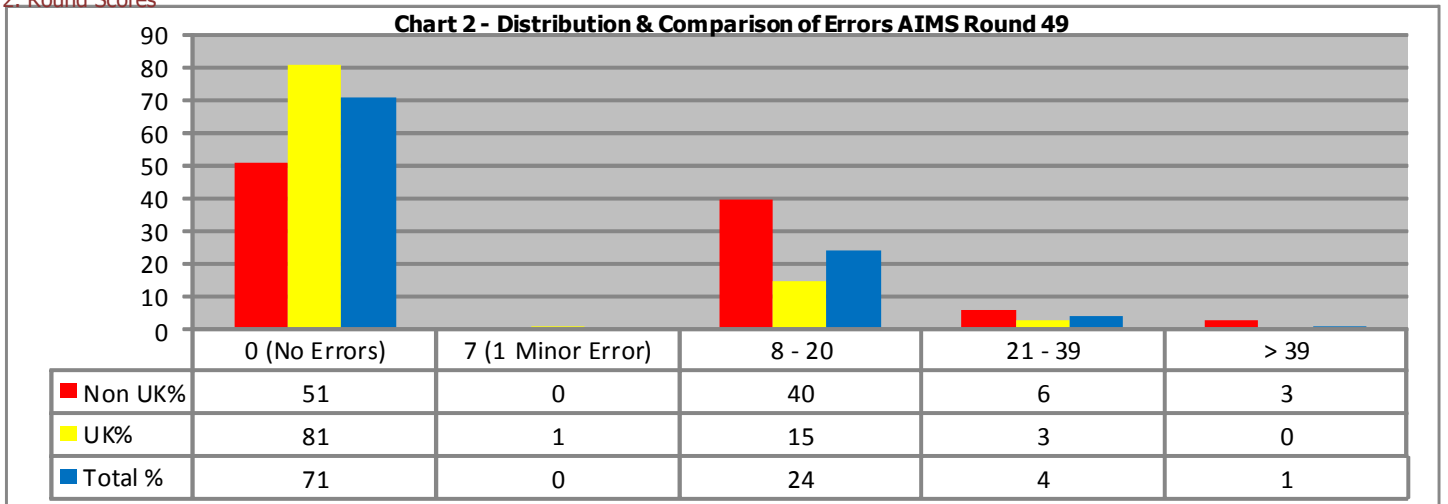
1. Type Of Errors Obtained



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

Chart 2 illustrates the distribution of scores for all participating laboratories. 194 (71%) of 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; 149 (81%) UK laboratories and 45 (51%) Non-UK laboratories obtained a score of zero for the round.

2. Round Scores



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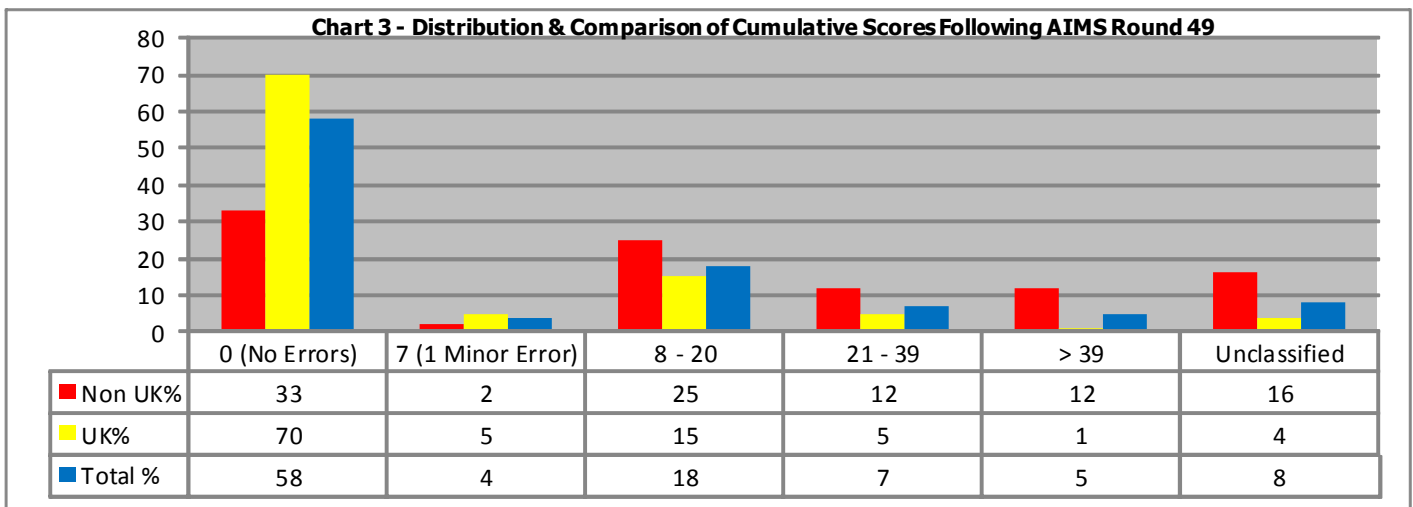
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Chart 3 shows the percentage distribution of cumulative 3 round scores for all laboratories, UK and Non-UK. 8% (22 laboratories) in total had not yet completed 3 rounds and therefore did not accumulate a score; these laboratories are not represented in the chart. Following this round (49), 12 laboratories (5%) in total obtained an unsatisfactory score (ie more than 39 penalty points cumulatively) after participating in 3 rounds. Whilst the number of laboratories having an unsatisfactory score is relatively low there are currently 50 laboratories with scores between 8 – 20, and 20 laboratories with scores between 21 – 39.



3. For Your Information - AIMS NEWS !!

HSL are continuing to develop their Asbestos Proficiency Testing Schemes on-line systems with updates to AIMS and the additions of the SEM scheme to the new web based format and the RICE scheme in the near future. Participants will have noticed a change following their logon, the new format will allow access to other asbestos PT schemes when they become available. Thank-you to all participants who are now using the new system, there have been and may from time to time be small glitches, but we are all learning and adapting the system to the needs of our administrators and participants with each AIMS round. Your help, patience, support and valuable feedback is greatly appreciated. Round 49 has been the first round using online submissions only. This has gone well and all future AIMS rounds will use the new online method only. Please contact the PT team if you have any feedback, problems or queries regarding the new online system at the email contact address: proficiency.testing@hsl.gov.uk

Individual round result reports will be available electronically for participants to access whenever they wish, we will also be working with the new system to reduce the times following round deadlines for release of individual round results. Please note results submission and report release schedules will still be strictly adhered to and will apply, this will be the only way we can release results of rounds more quickly; please see our website for the scheme schedules. The AIMS group reports however will still take a little longer due to the data extraction and reporting that needs to be generated from the online system. Once again the AIMS Team would like to thank all participants for their continued patience whilst HSL are introducing and improving the new processes and hope they will make life easier for everyone!

If you have any queries regarding AIMS, please contact the AIMS Proficiency Testing Team quoting your HSL PT laboratory number:

Telephone: +44 (0)1298 218553

Email: proficiency.testing@hsl.gov.uk

Samples for the next round of the AIMS - Round 50, will be dispatched the week commencing the 29th April 2013. The current AIMS handbook is available on the HSL website, which applies to AIMS rounds 48-50.



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