



Group Report



Round 17
March 2023

LOW ASBESTOS CONTENT SCHEME

Round 17 Sample Details

BACKGROUND

This report covers Round 17 of the Low Asbestos Content Scheme (LACS). LACS is currently a qualitative only PT scheme.

Round 17 was open to laboratories worldwide. Laboratory participation was as follows: 5 UK, 120 Europe & 5 Rest of the World.

130 laboratories subscribed to this round with 123 submitting results.

SAMPLES

One sample was circulated as follows: Sample LACS017 – This sample was soil containing UICC crocidolite.

SCREENING & VALIDATOR INFORMATION

The sample was prepared for circulation following our normal internal screening process of samples with representative sub-samples scanned using stereo-zoom and polarised light microscopy and transmission electron microscopy to assess homogeneity and suitability. Approximately 10% of the total number of samples despatched were validated by 11 independent laboratories.

INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY LABORATORIES

Laboratories used the PT Online Data Entry System to submit their results for this round. Results were submitted as asbestos type(s) present.

LACS RESULTS

Sample LACS017

Of the 123 laboratories submitting results for R17:

One hundred and twenty one laboratories correctly reported crocidolite

One laboratory reported chrysotile

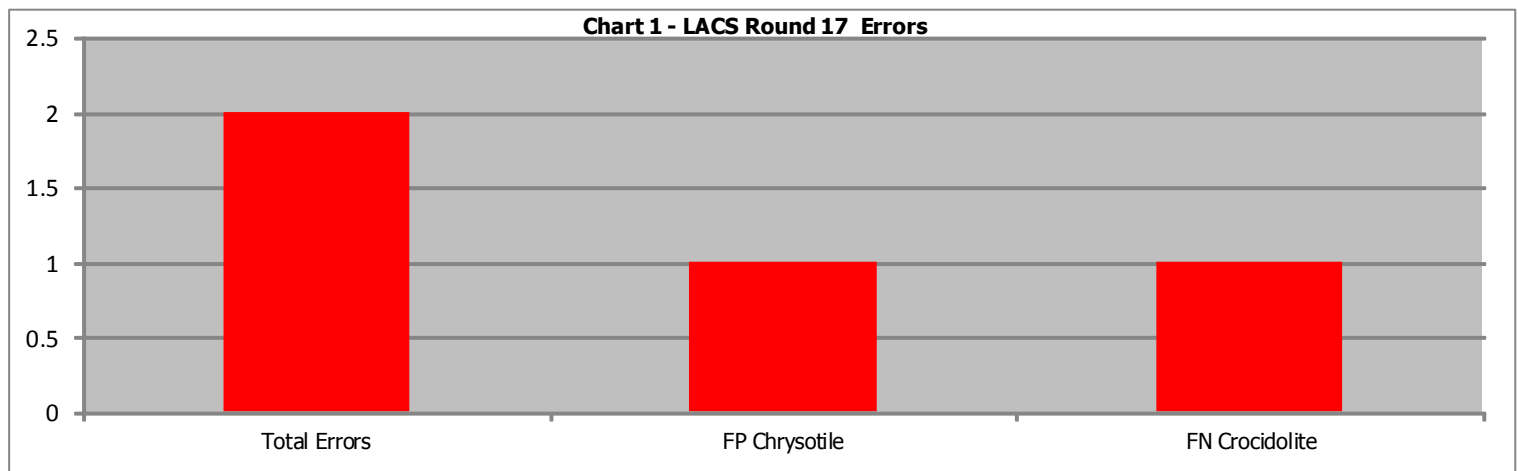
One laboratory reported no asbestos

These results are presented graphically in Charts 1 and 2.



1. Type Of Errors Obtained

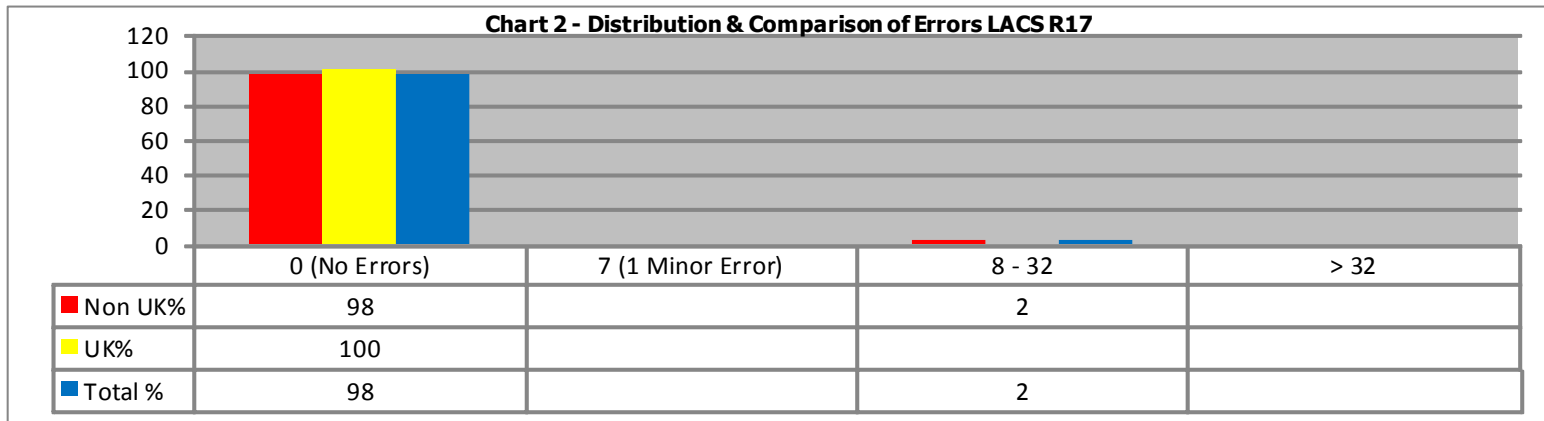
Chart 1 illustrates the errors made by participating laboratories. Two errors were made by laboratories on sample LACS017. One falsely reported chrysotile only and one reported no asbestos.



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

2. Errors for UK & Non-UK Laboratories

Chart 2 illustrates the distribution of scores for all participating laboratories. 121 (98%) 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; 4 (100%) UK laboratories and 117 (98%) Non-UK laboratories obtained a score of zero for the round.



Quantitative Results

For 2022/23, HSE are not providing quantitative samples for the Low Asbestos Content Scheme (LACS).

Additional Information

