



*Group Report*



*Round 20*  
**March 2024**

**LOW ASBESTOS CONTENT SCHEME**

## Round 20 Sample Details

### **BACKGROUND**

This report covers Round 20 of the Low Asbestos Content Scheme (LACS). LACS is currently a qualitative only PT scheme.

Round 20 was open to laboratories worldwide. Laboratory participation was as follows: 4 UK and 124 Rest of Europe. 128 laboratories subscribed to this round - all submitted results.

### **SAMPLES**

One sample was circulated as follows: Sample LACS020 – This sample was plaster containing UICC amosite. The sample was made as a batch using plaster and 0.03% UICC amosite by mass of the whole batch sample.

### **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. More than 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 LACS020**

Of the 128 laboratories submitting results for R20:

One hundred and twenty five laboratories correctly reported amosite

One laboratory reported chrysotile

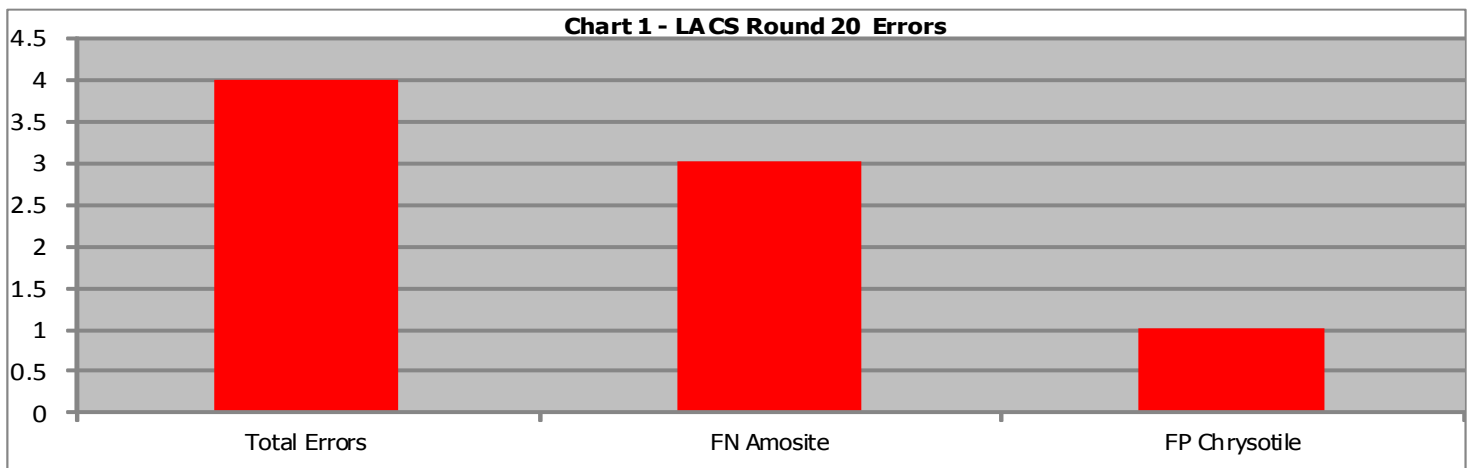
Two laboratories reported no asbestos

These results are presented graphically in Charts 1 and 2.



1. Type Of Errors Obtained

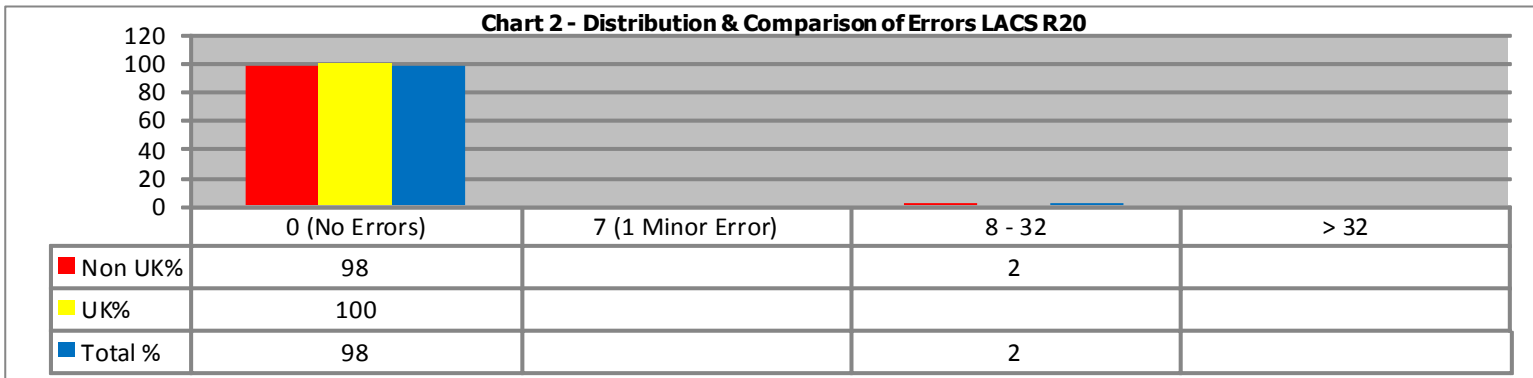
Chart 1 illustrates the errors made by participating laboratories. Four errors were made by laboratories on sample LACS020. One reported chrysotile (1 x FP chrysotile & 1 FN Amosite) and two reported no asbestos (2 x FN amosite).



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. 125 (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 121 (98%) Non-UK laboratories obtained a score of zero for the round.





Quantitative Results

For 2023/24, HSE are not providing quantitative samples for the Low Asbestos Content Scheme (LACS).

Additional Information

