



**GROUP REPORT**  
**Round 32**



**March 2024**

**ASBESTOS IN SOILS SCHEME**

## Round 32 Sample Details

### BACKGROUND

This report covers Round 32 of the Asbestos in Soils Scheme (AISS). Round 32 was open to laboratories worldwide. Laboratory participation was as follows: 22 UK & 57 NON UK. (Please see below re: the quantitative results for sample S064.\*)

### SAMPLES

Two samples were circulated as follows:

**Sample S063** – This sample was a non-asbestos sample containing a topsoil, compost, aggregate and sand matrix with wood flour, polypropylene, wollastonite and mop head fibres.

**Sample S064** – This sample contained amosite free fibre asbestos in a topsoil, compost, aggregate, sand, plaster and wollastonite matrix.

### SCREENING & VALIDATOR INFORMATION

Both samples were prepared for circulation following our normal internal screening process of samples with representative sub-samples scanned using stereo-zoom microscopy to assess homogeneity and suitability. Approximately 10% of the total number of samples were validated by 3 independent laboratories.

### INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY LABORATORIES

Seventy-nine laboratories submitted results for AISS Round 32. Laboratories used the PT online data entry system to submit their results for this round. Results were submitted as asbestos type(s) present and for the Quantitative option, the % asbestos in ACM's, as loose fibres and the total % asbestos.\*

### AISS QUALITATIVE RESULTS

#### Sample 1 (S063)

Seventy laboratories correctly reported no asbestos

One laboratory reported crocidolite, amosite & chrysotile

Eight laboratories reported chrysotile

#### Sample 2 (S064)

Seventy-seven laboratories correctly reported amosite

One laboratory reported amosite & tremolite

One laboratory reported amosite & chrysotile

### AISS QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

\*The quantitative results for Sample 2, S064, were very variable, we have investigated and are not confident in accuracy of sample for this round. This has been logged through our non-conformance procedure and a full internal investigation has been carried out. Please be assured we have put procedures in place to ensure this doesn't happen again for any future rounds.

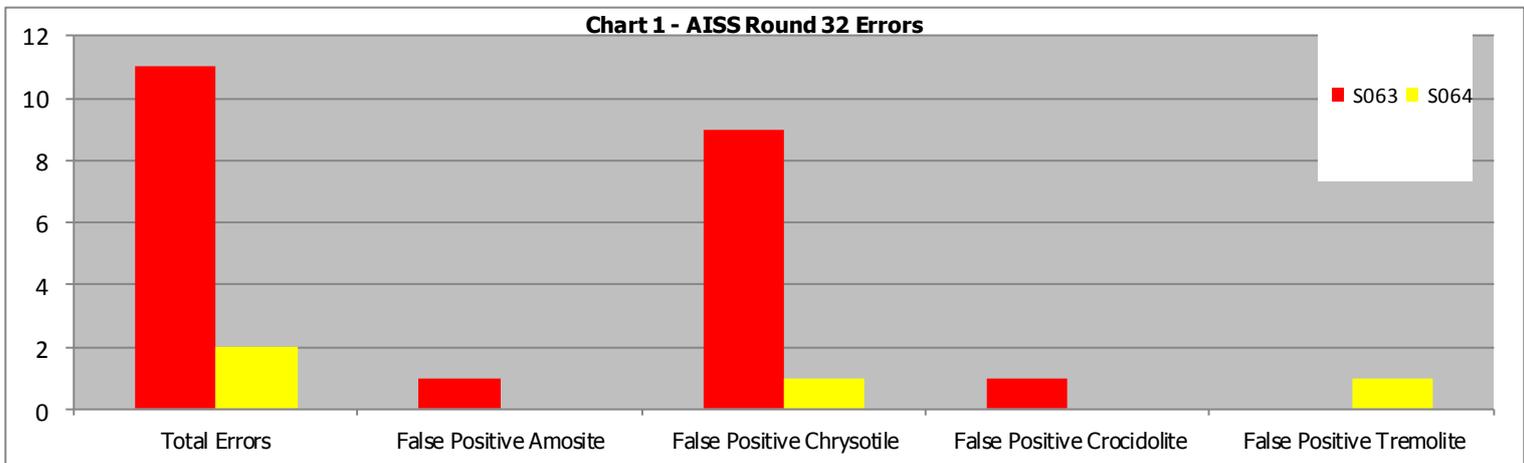
Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.



**1. Type Of Errors Obtained**

Chart 1 illustrates the errors made by participating laboratories. Eleven errors were made on sample S063 (no asbestos) with one laboratory reporting crocidolite, amosite and chrysotile and eight others reporting chrysotile.

Two errors were made on sample S064 (amosite) with one laboratory reporting amosite & chrysotile and one reporting amosite & tremolite.



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. 69 (88%) 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; 47 (82%) Non-UK laboratories and 22 (100%) UK laboratories obtained a score of zero for the round.

