

# ISRP 2002 abstract

| Presenter/author  | Title   | Abstract  |
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| <b>Delany, Terry</b><br><i>Carymar<br/>Construction<br/>Services,<br/>Glasgow, UK</i> | <b>Respiratory<br/>Protection<br/>from a<br/>Management<br/>Perspective</b> | <p>The asbestos removal industry is a uniquely difficult business to manage effectively. The hazard is invisible to the naked eye and failure may take up to 30 years to manifest. Twenty-seven years of experience in the management of asbestos in buildings has shown that some of the many changes/ developments in legislation, work practices and equipment have not always translated into a reduction in operatives' exposure.</p> <p>Work management strategies must ensure that procedures and controls are enforced to reduce exposure to the lowest level reasonably practicable, and thereafter ensure that the very best and most suitable RPE is available to deal comfortably with the residual risk. Whilst there is a need for research and development to improve the efficiency of RPE, it must not be seen as a panacea.</p> <p>Diligence, vigilance, training, competency, best practice work methods and controls are all essential. However very little is right 100% of the time. Therefore the best RPE with the highest possible protection factor will offer some comfort and reassurance in case control measures fail to function correctly. Those involved in development, whether it be of the equipment, legislation or practices must listen to the individuals who hold the Duty of Care for the operatives subjected to the risk.</p> |