



INFORMATION NOTE ON ASBESTOS IN SAFES

The PSA would like to bring to the attention of licensed locksmiths important information regarding asbestos in safes. If you are involved in the purchase and/or sale of second hand safes this information is relevant to your business.

Some safes built before the year 2000 contain asbestos. Asbestos is an extremely dangerous material which can cause serious health issues for persons coming into contact with it. Since 2000, there has been an EU wide ban on the marketing and selling of all products containing asbestos. This ban applies to second-hand and refurbished safes that contain or are presumed to contain asbestos.

The Health and Safety Authority has published guidance about the asbestos risks in safes and fire resistant cabinets. Locksmiths involved in the sale of second hand safes should familiarise themselves with this guidance and be aware of their obligations if the safes they sell contain asbestos or are presumed to contain asbestos. This guidance is available at www.hsa.ie.

Role of the PSA

All PSA licensed locksmiths are obliged to comply with the PSA Standard for the licensing of locksmiths (PSA 55). Clause 7.2.2 of the PSA 55 standard states;

During the term of the licence organisations shall comply with all relevant and current legislation and specifically the following:

- a) *The Private Security Services Acts and Regulations.*
- b) *Organisation of Working Time Acts.*
- c) *Taxation and Social Welfare Acts.*
- d) *Payment of Wages Acts.*
- e) *Immigration Acts.*
- f) *Health and Safety at Work Regulations.*
- g) **European Product Legislation.**

For PSA licensing purposes the EU wide prohibition on the marketing and sale of all products containing asbestos applies to any locksmith buying or selling second hand safes or any other product. Any locksmith found to be in breach of the EU ban may have their licence suspended or revoked.

Further information on asbestos is available on the Health and Safety Authority website.

Queries relating to asbestos in safes should be forwarded to the Health and Safety Authority.

