For the attention of all Network Rail Employees, Principal Contractors and Contractors who may undertake work in Buildings that may have Asbestos Containing Materials. (ACM’s)

Background:
Recently a Contractor working in a Power Signal Box (PSB) drilled through some Relay Room floor tiles, which caused the release of ACM dust. Although the dust released is not thought to be significant, this occurred whilst the signalling floor was operational. While information was readily available on the areas containing ACM’s it was not checked and this meant that there was the potential of exposing the Contractors and Staff Operating in the Signal Box to ACM dust whilst they were carrying out their normal duties. The incident is subject to a local investigation.

Immediate Action Required by all persons affected:
If you are carrying out tasks which require drilling holes in anything that may contain ACM’s you should be aware of the correct process to find out Pre - Construction Information, Such as;

- Pre-Construction information Pack (PCIP)
- Check if your work may disturb ACM’s
- Use of Asbestos Risk Management System (ARMS)
- Check with the Site Manager for an Asbestos Report
- Check your SSOW shows how to do it safely.
- If it doesn’t stop and seek advice from your line manager. If in doubt stop

Remember Network Rail as a general rule do not place warning signs on material that may contain asbestos in case they fall off or become damaged so you MUST check if asbestos may be present. If you have not checked the register to establish that there is no Asbestos always assume that there is Asbestos.

Staff should always be aware of the Life Saving Rules
Taking responsibility

Never undertake an activity unless you have been trained, assessed as competent and have the right equipment.

Always have a valid safe system of work in place before going on or near the line.

Issued on behalf of Head of Workforce Safety & Compliance, Network Operations