

# Sampling guide for potential asbestos containing samples

## How do I take a sample?

Sampling of potential asbestos bearing materials has to be done minimizing dust formation. It is therefore recommended to work under wet conditions by spraying soapy water on the materials to be collected. As sampling is done under wet conditions, electrical tools should not be used simultaneously (saws, rams, etc.). If possible, collect samples that are already detached or broken. It is usually riskier to sample in an unappropriated way than to leave the materials as it is.

It is highly recommended to contact professionals to collect samples where asbestos is strongly bonded.

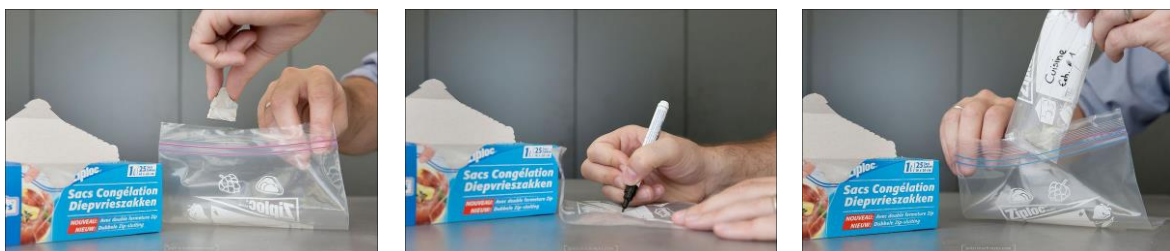
## How can I avoid contaminations?

A contamination is the unintentional transfer of an asbestos fibers from one sample to another one. This can lead to false positive results in the laboratory, thus generating supplementary costs to remove the materials on the construction site. To avoid it, it is mandatory to clean the sampling tools between each sample. A particular care has to be taken with cutters because fibers can enter those tools, thus contaminating the next samples. It is crucial to clean the cutters before and after use.

## How do I pack the samples?

The samples for asbestos analysis have to be packed in two successive plastic bags. For that purpose bags with a ziplock© system are suitable (see picture below).

Each sample has to be labelled with a reference corresponding to the one written on the order form or the information has to be introduced on our web portal.



## Which quantity do I have to sample?

The minimum quantity to sample depends on the materials. For heterogeneous materials (false ceilings, tile adhesives, etc.), a sample of 3 cm x 3 cm is usually sufficient. For manufactured materials (floor linings, sealants, etc.), samples can be smaller. However they should measure at least 2 cm x 2 cm to be representative.