

THE INSTITUTE OF WOOD PRESERVING AND DAMP-PROOFING

Examination for National Certificate in Remedial Treatment

21 March 2007

MODULE 1: *Legal and Health and Safety aspects of remedial treatments for infestation and dampness*

NOTES FOR CANDIDATES

1. Read the instructions and questions carefully.
2. Answers should be illustrated with sketches where appropriate.
3. Any abbreviations must be given in full when first used.
4. The duration of this written examination paper is 2 hours.
5. **All four** questions should be answered.

-
- 1 A surveyor must have an understanding of the legal implications of his work.
 - 1.1 What are the legal implications of a survey for which you are paid and how do they differ if you do not receive payment?
 - 1.2 Having agreed the factual items concerning a survey e.g. address, size and type of property, previous works, guarantees etc, list other items which should be agreed with your client prior to the survey being carried out.
 - 1.3 During your survey of a building with public access, you find the ends of several floor joists to be severely affected by dry rot. What action would you take?
 - 1.4 When surveying a property for possible rising damp, you notice that a section of guttering is missing. What action would you take?
 - 2 Workers in the remedial treatment industry should have a knowledge of the chemicals that they are specifying and handling, and safe practice for their use.
 - 2.1 Describe where and how concentrated pesticides should be safely diluted for use.
 - 2.2 What safety precautions should be taken during the transportation of chemicals from the company premises to the treatment site?

- 2.3 Name one type of chemical that you could specify for an injected damp-proof course and give details of the method of application.
- 2.4 For the product referred to in question 2.3, describe how you would calculate the likely amount of chemical that would be required to inject a damp-proof course in a 9 inch thick solid brick exterior wall around a property having exterior measurements of 5.5 metres x 6.5 metres.
- 3 A surveyor should have a general knowledge of the Acts and Regulations applicable to remedial treatments.
- 3.1 What duties does the Health and Safety at Work etc Act, 1974 place on employees?
- 3.2 What do you understand by the term 'treated area' in a building which is to receive a localised treatment against wood-boring beetle, with particular reference to safety precautions?
- 3.3 Having established the need to insert a chemical damp-proof course in a wall directly abutting the street, what is the damp-proof course system and the method of working which will give the lowest risk?
- 3.4 Describe the actions that you would take if a container of concentrated pesticide was spilt in a roadway and started to flow into a drain.
- 4 Under current legislation, a surveyor is required to make an assessment of the risks associated with any remedial treatment.
- 4.1 Explain the difference between a 'hazard' and a 'risk' as defined by the Health and Safety Executive, and give a simple example to illustrate that you understand the difference.
- 4.2 When installing a chemical damp-proof course in a semi-detached domestic dwelling, list all the potential hazards that might be encountered and thus need to be included in the risk assessment.
- 4.3 List all the information that should be on a 'warning card' displayed on site during and after treatment with a pesticide.
- 4.4 On finding active wood rot or insect attack in structural timbers in a building, list the circumstances when the risks associated with pesticidal treatments are too high to allow such treatments to be carried out.