

**Asbestos In Materials (AIMS) Scheme
EM Sample Report: - Round 44 Sample 18**

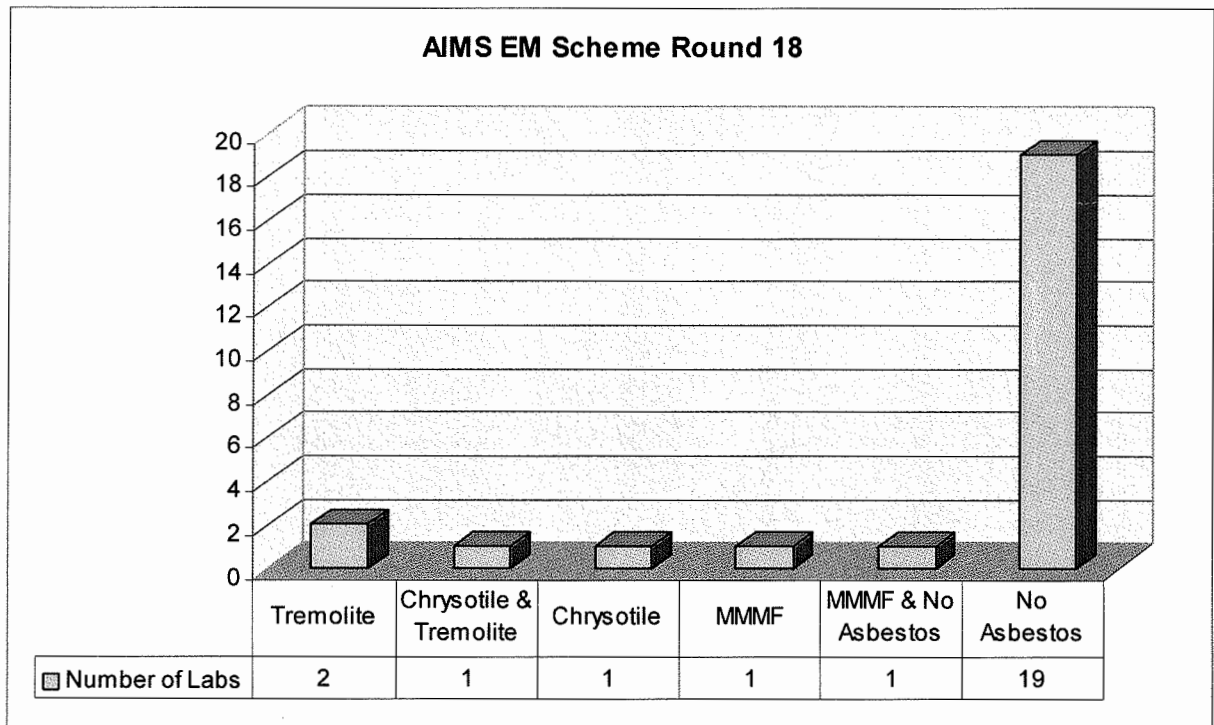


1. Results

1.1. Results From All Laboratories

Twenty-five laboratories participated in this round. The Round 18 sample was prepared in the laboratory and consisted of Superfine MMMF in a plaster matrix. The different results received from labs can be observed in the graph Figure 1.

Figure 1. Results from Round 44, Sample 18



1.2. Results For Your Laboratory

Your results are shown in table 1.

Laboratory Number: 1640

Laboratory Result: Your laboratory correctly identified no asbestos present

	Crocidolite	Amosite	Chrysotile	Tremolite	Anthophyllite	Actinolite	Non-asbestos
Sample 18 (Round 44)							☑
Your Result							☑

Asbestos In Materials (AIMS) Scheme

EM Sample Report: - Round 44 Sample 18

Table 1. Results table

2. Background Information

2.1 Organisation Of The Scheme:

One sample is dispatched approximately every 4 months along with the AIMS samples and a total of 3 samples are sent per scheme year. The scheme includes asbestos and non-asbestos containing samples. The samples should be analysed by electron microscopy. The scheme is not scored.

The Electron Microscope sub-scheme has asbestos and other fibres at a nominal level of 0.01% (10ppm), in a variety of matrices. The scheme is particularly aimed at electron microscopy techniques (although it may be useful for the measurement of the limit of detection of other methods) where it is possible to detect and quantify asbestos at these concentrations. There will be some variability in the asbestos and other fibre concentrations supplied.

2.2 Production Of Samples:

Samples which contain fibres - These samples are produced from a range of matrices with a known percentage (weight per weight) of asbestos and/or non-asbestos fibres. Each sample is produced individually by mixing accurately weighed fibrous and matrix components.

Non-fibrous samples - These samples are manufactured from a fibre free matrix.

2.3 Quality Control:

Great care is taken during the preparation of the EM samples to ensure that no cross contamination occurs. 10% of the samples are carefully analysed by polarised light microscopy. Transmission electron microscopy validation analysis may also be carried out where appropriate. While the asbestos fibres will be well mixed in the matrix, it cannot be expected that complete homogeneity is achieved and sample preparation is of significant importance.