



## Dear Steve

As consulting engineers for demolition, decontamination and decommissioning, we are always looking for new ways to increase recycling rates for our clients. This month, we feature a method of recycling asbestos that could mean nearly 100% recycling rates on your demolition projects.

## Treatment of Asbestos Containing Materials



Due to their known carcinogenic properties, all asbestos containing materials are currently landfilled at specially designed and managed landfills. However, this is both costly and becoming increasingly difficult with the gradual closure of landfills in the UK.

### Diverting asbestos from the waste stream

Although asbestos fibres are found in the environment, the risk to human health comes from the total number of fibres breathed in. Currently, asbestos containing materials (ACMs) are packaged for disposal as hazardous waste and put into hazardous waste landfill sites.

Tetronics, located in Swindon, has developed a technology that actually enables the hazardous nature of any asbestos material to be permanently destroyed through vitrification.



### Vitrification of ACMs

Using the intense heat of plasma arcs, Tetronics melts the asbestos fibres to form a dense glass-like product that is mechanically strong and environmentally benign.

The resulting material has been tested to BS EN 13242:2002 standards as an unbound aggregate and can be used as an aggregate for a variety of building applications including pipe bedding, road paving or as sub-base material for high load bearing structures.

The material has also undergone independent leachate testing against BS EN 12457 standards and has demonstrated

that there is no potential to cause pollution or harm to human health when it is either stored or used.

Because this process diverts asbestos from the landfills, it could be an important way of increasing recycling rates from your demolition projects.

For more information on the vitrification technology, contact Tetronics on + 44 (0)1793 238 500 or online at [www.tetronics.com](http://www.tetronics.com).

Warm regards,

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