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# Two Companies Penalised After Teen Worker Exposed to Asbestos

## Description

In a recent incident, two companies [faced penalties](#) following the exposure of a teenage worker to asbestos. The incident occurred during refurbishment work at a domestic property in Richmond, North Yorkshire, where P Turnbull Joinery and Building Services Ltd was contracted by Alt Berg Holding Limited.

## Incident Details

The 16-year-old worker was tasked with removing cement sheets from the property's roof and placing them in a skip. Unfortunately, these sheets contained asbestos fibres, exposing the worker to potential health risks.

## The Investigation

The [Health and Safety Executive \(HSE\)](#) conducted an investigation, revealing significant oversights. Alt Berg Holdings Limited had failed to conduct a necessary asbestos refurbishment and demolition survey of the property before work began. Such a survey would have identified the asbestos presence, preventing exposure to the hazardous fibres.

## Identified Failures

Chris Tilley, principal inspector at HSE, highlighted the critical lapses: "A proper asbestos survey by the client before work started would have identified the hazard. The contractor should have implemented necessary controls to safely remove asbestos before commencing work."

## Court Proceedings

At Peterlee Magistrates' Court, P Turnbull Joinery and Building Services Ltd admitted breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act. Consequently, the firm received a fine of £2,000 and was ordered to pay £500 in prosecution costs.

Alt Berg Holdings admitted breaching regulation 4(4) of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations. The company was fined £6,000 and ordered to pay £1,950 in prosecution costs.

This case underscores the vital importance of proper safety assessments and adherence to regulations to protect workers, particularly vulnerable young workers like the 16-year-old involved in this incident.

## CATEGORY

1. Safety Alerts and Notices

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## POST TAG

1. Asbestos
2. Construction Sector
3. Health
4. Health and Safety
5. Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
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