



**Media Release**  
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## **Asbestos Industry Report Now Available**

In December 2021, the New Zealand Demolition & Asbestos Association (NZDAA) commissioned independent research into the state of our national Asbestos industry. The Association is pleased to announce that this report has now been completed, and the findings are publicly available via the NZDAA website.

The report is intended for all those who work within the industry, those who commission asbestos work and those who regulate the industry as a proactive road map for constructive collaboration, by identifying specific factors that could potential enhance or inhibit the growth prospects of the asbestos industry and worker and community safety.

It's author, Mike Cosman, is an independent Senior Health and Safety Consultant of Cosman Parkes and has 42 years' experience in health and safety with a specific focus on asbestos through his career as a regulator, policy maker and consultant both in the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

The report looked at and covers all aspects of the asbestos industry from identification through to removal, as well as general awareness and regulation. It found that while the situation in New Zealand is improving, there is a high degree of inconsistency in standards and significant gaps in the system.

There were several key areas of concern highlighted in the report, along with recommendations for driving improvements and sector performance. These areas include aspects of surveying, licensing, worker safety and the transportation and handling of asbestos waste.

NZDAA President Helina Stil says, “while some may find parts of this report confronting, it represents a fair unbiased and transparent assessment of the overall health and safety performance of our industry”.

Some of the changes identified in the report would require legislative change and a copy of the report has been shared with both the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) and WorkSafe NZ. There are however steps that could be taken by industry itself towards improving standards and working practices in the interim.

“This report should be viewed as opportunity for all decision makers to strengthen health and safety and drive positive change for all’ says Stil. “We already have a meeting booked with the Minister to discuss the findings in the report and in the coming weeks we will be consulting with our members and other key industry partners to agree on steps that we as an industry will take to address some of these recommendations”.

For more information or to read the Asbestos Industry Report in full visit [www.nzdaa.com](http://www.nzdaa.com).