

# Mould Cleaning & Remediation

## Background

McMahon Services offer best practice solutions for the protection of workplace respiratory health. Many decades of experience dealing with Asbestos contaminated environments has honed management practices in related fields such as Mould Contamination in the environment.

Moulds are Fungi and produce tiny spores to reproduce, just as some plants produce seeds. These mould spores can be found in both indoor and outdoor air, and settled on indoor and outdoor surfaces. When mould spores land on a damp spot, they begin growing and digesting whatever they are on in order to survive. Since moulds gradually destroy the things they grow on, you can prevent damage to building materials and furnishings and save money by eliminating mould growth.

The sustained and/or extensive growth of any visible mould on the interior surfaces of a building is unacceptable and a risk factor for health problems.

Moisture control is the key to mould control. Moulds need both food and water to survive; since moulds can digest most things, water is the factor that limits mould growth. Common sites for indoor mould growth include bathroom tile, basement walls, areas around windows where moisture condenses, and near leaky water fountains or sinks. Common sources or causes of water or moisture problems include roof leaks, deferred maintenance, condensation associated with high humidity or cold spots in the building, localized flooding due to plumbing failures or heavy rains, slow leaks in plumbing fixtures, and malfunction or poor design of humidification systems. Uncontrolled humidity can also be a source of moisture leading to mould growth, particularly in hot, humid climates.

## Health Effects and Symptoms Associated with Mould Exposure

Moulds produce allergens, irritants, and in some cases, toxins that may cause reactions in humans. Building occupants may begin to report odours and experience a variety of health problems, such as headaches, breathing difficulties, skin irritation, allergic reactions and aggravation of asthma symptoms. All of these symptoms could potentially be associated with mould exposure.



*Spraying of treatment reagent*



*Application of treatment reagent*

McMahon Services are specialists in the treatment and management of hazardous substances and controlling airborne respiratory risk

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## The McMahon Services Solution

The management of mould contamination is a specialised area that requires a thorough understanding of Occupational Health and Hygiene practices. It also requires trained personnel and specialised plant and equipment to be used in order to effectively remediate mould contamination.

McMahon Services is an industry leader in the management and handling of hazardous materials. Our knowledge, experience, highly trained personnel and specialised capabilities in high risk asbestos removal, provides a nationally recognised qualification base that can be applied to the remediation of mould.

Our strong profile and reputation in the industry means we have worked with authorities, regulatory bodies, and government to develop approved codes of practice and safe-work procedures surrounding the safe removal of hazardous materials, still in use today.

Through on-going innovation we have developed the knowledge, skills and work processes in order to effectively and safely remediate mould contamination. This includes the following:

- ▶ McMahon Services uses both broad spectrum and specialist mould treatment reagents
- ▶ Provide a turn-key solution involving complete cleaning and mould removal and building works associated with replacement of damaged building materials
- ▶ Highly trained HAZMAT removal technicians (Class-A asbestos removal)
- ▶ Qualified in-house building trades including carpentry, ceilings and linings, plumbing, electrical, floor coverings and painting

### Our Team

- ▶ McMahon Services provide expert personnel well versed in use of best practice PPE and management of equipment in airborne contaminant environments
- ▶ Qualified in processes and management plans relating to airborne respiratory risk
- ▶ Federally accredited safety management systems

### Our Equipment

- ▶ HEPA vacuum systems
- ▶ Custom designed and fabricated enclosures with airlock and HEPA extraction systems to eradicate cross ventilation and contamination of building areas
- ▶ Environmentally-friendly mould removal agents



*Vacuuming contaminated areas*



*The control of air lines at Incitec Pivot site, Gibson Island*