Safe Building Demolition and Site Clearance Course: Surveys, Strip-Out, Waste and Handover

1 – 5 March 2027
Cape town

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Ref: 879_40377 **Date:** 1 – 5 March 2027 **Location:** Cape town **Fees:** 4800 GBP

Programme Summary

Safe building demolition and site clearance is the subject of this one-week training course for facility, estates and asset managers at managerial level, ending in a handover pack for one building taken out of service. Buildings reach the end of their use with hidden hazards, mixed waste and varied contractors. The programme moves from end-of-life decisions through surveys, isolation, method selection and waste recovery to site handover, using prepared building records. Mars Training Centre UK delivers this programme on safe building demolition and site clearance to mixed-organisation cohorts.

The Business Case

Offices, hospitals, factories and utility sites all reach a point where a building or plant must leave service. Managers who find the hazards before work starts, choose a suitable method and keep contractors to the plan avoid stoppages, injuries and disputes at handover.

- Safety Exposure: Falls when a hazardous materials survey and safe isolation are completed before any demolition work begins.
- Waste Cost: Decreases when waste and material recovery options are set out before strip-out starts.
- Handover Delay: Shortens when contractor supervision and site clearance checks are agreed in advance.

Principles and Evidence Base

- ISO 20887: The international standard on design for disassembly and adaptability, applied in Session 1 to judge how a building is taken apart.
- Hazard Identification Before Work: A risk principle that hazards are found and recorded before any physical work, applied in Sessions 2 and 3.
- Waste and Material Recovery: A resource principle that arisings are sorted and reused before disposal, applied in Session 4 to rank recovery options.

Intended Participants

- Facility and estates managers who decide when buildings and plant leave service.
- Asset managers who weigh retention, adaptation and removal against residual value.
- Project leaders who plan and sequence decommissioning and demolition works.
- Safety and procurement managers who set controls and appoint demolition contractors.

Typical settings include commercial property, healthcare, manufacturing and utilities.

Learning Outcomes

1. Participants will be able to evaluate retention, adaptation and removal options for a building at the end of its life.
2. Participants will be able to construct a decommissioning plan with stages, owners and hold points.
3. Participants will be able to diagnose hazards from a hazardous materials survey and rank them in a risk register.
4. Participants will be able to compare demolition methods against site and hazard constraints.
5. Participants will be able to prioritise waste streams and material recovery options by value and handling risk.
6. Participants will be able to justify a supervision routine and a site handover pack to an asset owner.

Programme Structure

Day 1: End-of-Life Decisions and Decommissioning Planning

When should a building or plant be taken out of service, and what must be planned first?

- Retain, Adapt or Remove Option Appraisal
- Asset Condition and Residual Value Review
- Decommissioning Plan Outline
- ISO 20887 Disassembly Review
- Stakeholder and Neighbour Impact Map

Day 2: Hazardous Materials Survey and Site Diagnosis

What is in the building, and what could harm people or the works?

- Hazardous Materials Survey Scope
- Record Review
- Structural Condition Check
- Utilities and Services Register
- Hazard and Risk Register

Day 3: Safe Isolation, Strip-Out and Method Selection

How is the building made safe, and which demolition method suits it?

- Safe Isolation Plan
- Strip-Out Sequence
- Demolition Method Selection Matrix
- Exclusion Zone and Access Plan
- Permit to Work Review

Day 4: Waste, Material Recovery and Contractor Control

How are waste and materials recovered, and how are contractors held to the plan?

- Waste Stream Inventory
- Material Recovery Options Table
- Contractor Selection Criteria
- Supervision and Inspection Plan
- Variation Control Log

Day 5: Site Clearance and Handover Pack for One Building

Do the findings join into a verified site and a complete handover pack?

- Applying the Session 2 Hazard and Risk Register
- Testing the Session 3 Method Selection Matrix
- Checking the Session 4 Waste Stream Inventory
- Site Clearance Verification Checklist
- Completing the Handover Pack

Methodology

The programme is a structured exercise built on prepared records for an office block and a process plant building. Participants appraise options, read survey findings and test contractor plans, then defend their choices to peers.

- Suggested activity: Scoring retain, adapt and remove options for one building.
- Suggested activity: Reading a hazardous materials survey extract to rank the hazards before strip-out.
- Suggested activity: Matching three demolition methods to the constraints of a crowded site.

Capstone Output

Each participant completes a handover pack for one building taken out of service. It holds the option appraisal, the hazard and risk register, the method selection matrix, the waste inventory, the supervision plan and the clearance checklist. At work it goes to the asset owner and sets the routine for later decommissioning and demolition projects.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is safe building demolition and site clearance training suitable for managers without an engineering background?

Yes. Safe building demolition and site clearance is taught through prepared records and checklists. You need responsibility for buildings, assets or projects, but no engineering background.

Which standard does safe building demolition and site clearance rest on in this training?

Safe building demolition and site clearance here rests on ISO 20887 for disassembly and material recovery, with two further principles.

How is the handover pack from safe building demolition and site clearance training used at work?

You take the handover pack to the asset owner, use its register and matrix to brief contractors, and keep its checklist as the routine for later decommissioning projects.

How does safe building demolition and site clearance differ from a programme on construction project delivery?

Safe building demolition and site clearance concentrates on taking buildings out of service safely, from surveys to handover, while a programme on construction project delivery concentrates on building new works.