

FILE NAME: Caterpillar (CAT)

DATE: 1955 Oct 5

DOC#: CAT021

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo - Asbestos Dust Exposure

CLW

CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO.

Oct. 5, 1955

TO Peoria Ed. Serv. Empl. Rel.
PLANT OR OFFICE DEPT.
✓ ATTN: Dr. M. H. Kronenberg

Subject: Asbestos Dust Exposure

From: Wm. R. Retzer, Industrial Hygienist

DATE RECEIVED		
PLANT	DEPT.	ATTN.
	<i>Had</i>	<i>mk</i>
	<i>..</i>	<i>Cwa</i>
ANS.		DATE
DESTROY ☐		
FILE _____ MONTHS		

As a result of complaints about dust, a study has been made to determine exposure to asbestos dust on the Brake Band Line, Dept. 11, located at X-22-F. The source of dust is the brake lining material.

It has been learned that both drilling and countersinking are done on this line, in some cases all 4 units operating during peak production. One countersinking unit has been provided with an exhaust system, and it appears that production is limited to this exhausted equipment whenever possible. However, it is frequently necessary for the other unexhausted units to be used.

Dust counts along the brake band drilling and countersinking line range from 19.7 to 41.6 million dust particles per cubic foot of air. The concentration depends upon the amount of activity and the direction of natural drafts. A safe limit of 5 million particles per cubic foot has been established for asbestos dust. This limit has been exceeded in all the operations studied.

It is recommended that the Plant Engineering Division consider the requirements and make plans for an exhaust system to remove dust originating from work on brake lining material. The present condition, without complete exhaust ventilation control, constitutes a violation of the Illinois Health and Safety Act and Rules.

cc: Pl. Engrng.
Planning
Dept. 11



CAT-1018967