

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Frank M. Stumpf

From: John O'Rourke

Subject: CAFCO HEAT-SHIELD Failure - Federal Office Building, Baltimore, Maryland



Date: 2/17/65

With respect to the recent CAFCO HEAT-SHIELD failure on the Federal Office Building in Baltimore, I have received three reports - your report dated January 28th, a trip report from Ziggy Sumski dated January 27, 28 and a report from Harry Schneider dated January 28, 1965.

I consider this complaint to be real serious because this was the new HEAT-SHIELD formulation and this was an application to concrete which, to my knowledge, we have never experienced failure before.

From a review of the three reports, it would appear that two failures were occurring. One was failure at the adhesive line and the other one was failure within the mat itself. The question is - as a result of our concentrated personal coverage job, are we any closer today in knowing what happened to cause either one of the above-mentioned failures than we were at the time the complaint was investigated?

The sales organization must always be in a position to advise a customer or an architect as to plausible and logical reasons which may have contributed to a failure.

After reviewing these three reports, Frank, it is my honest opinion that the U Machine did not contribute to the failure. It is my opinion that the cold slab did not contribute to the failure. I honestly feel, from reading Harry Schneider's report, that moisture in the mat, either accumulated from the spraying operation or absorbed after it was applied developed too much weight for that wet mat and that's what caused the delamination.

As Harry Schneider points out, third paragraph on page 3, the first nine panels failed and the second five panels remained intact. There appears to have been more heat applied on the job site during the spraying of the first nine panels than there was during the spraying of the second five panels. Isn't it plausible that this additional heat created condensation problems within the mat which would have caused failure? Is it possible that the gases of combustion introduced added water vapor into the atmosphere which condensed within the fiber mat and created failure?

Please look over these three trip reports Frank. Schneider's report seems to make a lot of sense to me and at least he arrives at some conclusions - right or wrong.

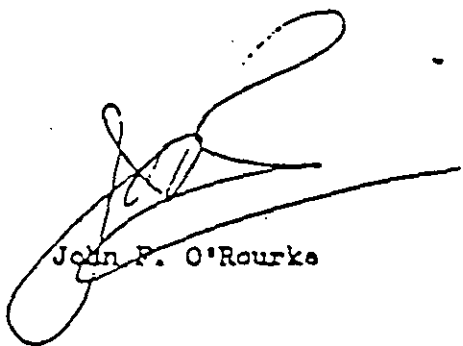
What are your conclusions?

Did the heat hurt or help?

What happened?

jfo:mer

cc: H. Schneider
H. Gropp
File


John P. O'Rourke