

FILE NAME: Visible Dust (VDT)

DATE: 1975 June 10

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NOVEMBER 1992

IN THE CIRCUITS OF THE UNITED STATES

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Accident Prevention, 4-8-10
276-2163
June 10, 1975
M-45723AA



Mr. R. C. Boyd, Manager Oil Circuit Breaker
FOS Division, TC-106

CC: Mr. R. W. Decker, TC-102
Mr. W. C. Zimmerling, TC-102
Mr. H. E. Kinsey, TC-5
Mr. D. C. Lohman, TC-107
Mr. C. T. Martinella, TC-105

In response to a request from the employees and the Safety Observer in Section TC-5, Group 103, the area foreman in Section TC-5 requested the Accident Prevention Department to investigate the potential hazards involved with using (W) M-45723AA, used to make gaskets, the following information is submitted:

This material was received in the section from the supplier, Nicolet Industries, Inc., Ambler, Pennsylvania, with a warning label attached which reads as follows: "Caution Contains Asbestos Fibers - Avoid Creating Dust - Breathing Asbestos Dust May Cause Serious Bodily Harm."

The material card was checked with the Corporate Industrial Hygiene Laboratory and they indicated it consists of asbestos and neoprene rubber. The various operations performed are hand sanding, shearing, punching, drilling and sawing. It has been the experience of the Industrial Hygiene Laboratory that any of the visible dust produced by operations on asbestos bearing materials produces excessive quantities of airborne asbestos fibers. Their recommendation is that a substitute material be found. If the material is to be continued to be used, it will require periodic air sampling every six months.

Until such time as a substitute material can be found, the dust must be removed from the operators breathing zone with adequate exhaust ventilation and filtered through high efficiency particulate air filters.

If this material is to be continued to be used, any future request for an Industrial Hygiene survey of the area should be made through G. T. Brady, Manager, Accident Prevention.

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During the interim period until suitable corrective engineering can be implemented, it is recommended that the operator be fitted with appropriate respiratory protection. The operators should be properly instructed in the use of this equipment and required to wear it. The recommended respirator is the Buxton stored in the East Pittsburgh 500 Storehouse under the number 76524444.

Sub. 904
 Dick Wolf,
 Safety Inspector

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