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To–Name & Department		File Code / Division	Date / Plant/Office	CIMS Number
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Subject: SPECIAL INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SURVEY ASBESTOS, OIL MIST, WELDING FUME

On Friday, September 16, 1977 the writer investigated the torque converter lining bonding ovens, a honing operation, and an automatic welding operation with Mr. E. A. Kolacki. The investigation resulted from employee requests to evaluate the asbestos hazard associated with the torque converter lining. The employees were alarmed by the warning on the lining box which reads "Caution-Contains Asbestos Fibers - Avoid Breathing Dust- Breathing Dust May Cause Serious Bodily Harm."

Asbestos

Personal air samples were collected in the breathing zone of the bonding oven operators. The results indicate that all of the exposures are well under the permissible exposure limit. However, while two of the employees were exposed to less than the detectable limit of our procedure (0.1 fiber/cc), one employee (L. Frye, #8420) was exposed to a measurable amount of asbestos. A recent court decision (see attachment) requires that employees exposed to airborne asbestos "in any measurable amount" be provided with an annual medical examination, in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration General Industry Standards, 29 CFR 1910.1001(j). A copy of this regulation is enclosed.

Accordingly, L. Frye must be provided with an annual medical examination which must include "a chest roentgenogram (posterior-anterior 14 x 17 inches) a history to elicit symptomology of respiratory disease, and pulmonary function tests to include forced vital capacity (FVC) and forced expiratory volume at 1 second ($FEV_{1.0}$)." A similar physical is required at termination of employment.

Wipe samples were also taken from the tops, instrument panels, and work surface of several bonding ovens. Microscopic examination revealed the presence of asbestos fibers on the work surface of the oven only. The source of the asbestos is broken torque converter linings, and while occasional broken linings cannot be avoided, an attempt should be made to keep the work surface free of asbesots by frequent cleaning.

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