ER-8082 REV. 2-77



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

May 9, 1978

MEMO TO FILE

RE: REPLACEMENTS FOR ASBESTOS INSULATION

Gerry Hanna, Employee Relations Director - Du Pont of Canada - called for recommendations regarding suitable replacements for asbestos insulation at high temperatures.

Information was obtained from Glen Roberts - Old Hickory - Phone No. 7308. He indicated that Bill Webb - Chattanooga - Phone No. 1478 is the most knowledgeable person in this area.

Old Hickory has used one-inch thick blocks of calcium silicate as a replacement for asbestos. Calcium silicate as provided previously contained an asbestos binder and worked very well. The calcium silicate which is currently available is asbestos-free and does not perform nearly as well. They throw away about 1/3 of the material which they receive. Pressed mineral wool is provided in asbestos-free blocks and works pretty well. Marinite XL from Johns Manville is asbestos-free. However, it is pretty heavy and very hard on saw blades.

No replacement cloth works as well as asbestos cloth. However, a product called Novatex is asbestos cloth treated to confine asbestos particles. Air monitoring has shown that this material may be handled without exceeding permissible limits. Novatex works even better than previously supplied asbestos cloth especially at high temperatures. Fiberglass and Nomex® are useful but both have high temperature limits.

Mineral wool is generally used when a loose fill is needed.

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J.R. Martin
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5/9/78

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THERE'S A WORLD OF THINGS WE ARE DOING SOMETHING ABOUT

SC-DP-05525