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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Industry Revised Recommendations and Instructions for for Prevention of Lead Poisoning

REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS COVERING RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR
PREVENTION OF ASBESTOSIS. THESE RULES TO SUPERSEDE THOSE
ADOPTED BY THE SHOP AND ENGINEERING COMMITTEE ON JAN. 18, 1937.

1. Respirators should be furnished by the Company and they should be worn at all times by employes handling asbestos. Attention is called to some of the specific instances where respirators are required:

Loading or unloading shipments of asbestos.
Mixing asbestos.
Removing lagging from boilers.
Removing lagging from pipes.
Breaking up or grinding asbestos.

2. Before removing lagging from a boiler, either locomotive or stationary, asbestos must be sprayed with water sufficiently to lay the dust.
3. Removal of lagging from locomotive boilers should be done when there is the least number of men working in the vicinity, and all such men should be protected by wearing approved respirators.
4. Grinding asbestos causes excessive dust. Where such operations are performed and facilities are equipped with exhaust systems, employes should also be required to wear approved respirators. When exhaust systems are not provided, employes so engaged should be required to wear air masks or helmets with clean dry air furnished from an outside source.
5. Each employee required to wear a respirator should be furnished one for his individual use or one that has been sterilized if previously used by any other person.
6. To insure maximum protection from respirators, only those that have the approval of the U. S. Bureau of Mines should be furnished.
7. Foremen should make periodical checks to see that respirators fit properly, and to note that they are in good condition.
8. Foremen should be held responsible for seeing that respirators are worn in accordance with instructions.
9. It is suggested that the above recommendations be communicated directly to the foremen involved. Publicity on the above might suggest the making of claims.

REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS COVERING RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREVENTION OF LEAD POISONING. THESE RULES TO SUPERSEDE THOSE ADOPTED BY THE SHOP AND ENGINEERING COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 18, 1937.

"A" Babbit and Brass.

1. Respirators will be furnished by the company, to be worn at all times when engaged in melting or pouring of babbits or brass, unless other sufficient means of elimination of fumes and dusts are provided.
2. Suitable hoods and stacks will be provided over furnaces used for melting metals containing lead, to provide for removal of fumes and dusts.
3. Provide locations for such operations that will furnish maximum ventilation.
4. Prohibit clothing lockers or storage in workrooms where such operations are performed.
5. Maintain scrupulous cleanliness of workrooms and apparatus by avoiding accumulations of dust, and require frequent wetting down of facilities and floor, especially before sweeping and dusting.
6. Prohibit employes from bringing lunches into, or eating in workrooms.
7. It is recommended that where such operations are extensive, periodical tests of air be made to determine presence of lead dust.

"B" Paint Spraying.

1. Respirators will be furnished by the company, to be worn at all times when spraying paints.
2. Spraying of locomotives, cars, buildings, bridges, etc., to be done as far as practicable when other employes are not required to be in the immediate vicinity.
3. Prohibit clothing lockers or storage in workrooms, also prohibit employes from bringing lunches into, or eating in workrooms or in the immediate vicinity of such operations.

"C" Welding Operations Involving Lead.

1. Provide, insofar as practicable, locations for bronze welding operations segregated from other operations, and provide a maximum ventilation.
2. Provide hoods and stacks over benches, furnaces, and such facilities used in connection with such operations.

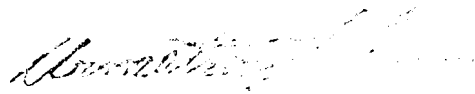
"D" It is suggested that the above recommendations be communicated directly to the foremen involved. Publicity on the above might suggest the making of claims.

JULY 212, 1937

or destroying all copies of the original bulletins containing instructions for the prevention of tetanus, silicosis and lead poisoning.

The Committee having completed all of its work for the present adjourned subject to further instructions.

Yours truly,



Chairman, Railroad Engineering
& Shop Committee

CC: HBV
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In conducting the control of hazardous materials, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has recognized that the present situation of the country is designed to comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety Act, and are to be considered a minimum. Some problems may arise in more extensive operations, which expose employees to the risk of disease or injury by contact with hazardous dusts, fumes or gases. Control of such hazards is imperative and consists in a survey of the shops to locate the exposure, estimate its seriousness, and consider the steps necessary for its correction. The first consideration, and the most important, is isolation of any excessively dusty processes to protect employees in the vicinity engaged in other work and not aware of the risk to which they are exposed. This may necessitate a considerable re-arrangement and re-location of equipment. Installation of hood and exhaust systems complies with the letter of the Health and Safety Act and prevents the appearance of something being done, but it will require supervision to ensure effective performance.

All dusts and all poisons cannot be eradicated, but they can be controlled and reduced to a degree which is recognized by conditions and by experience to be non-hazardous, and the Committee recommends that at points where extensive operations are carried on, after available mechanical appliances for ventilation are installed, periodic examinations of the air should be carried out to determine the quantity and composition of the dust, and in the building, periodic chemical examinations of the air should be made for the presence of lead fume or fumes. It is only by such examinations that the presence of harmful substances in the air can be ascertained and the adequacy of the ventilation systems checked.

These recommendations relate to the engineering control. No less important is the medical control. Medical control consists of a careful pre-employment occupational history, extending over a period of five years at least, to exclude applicants who have a history of previous prolonged exposure in occupations subjecting them to the hazards of silica, asbestos, or lead dusts. Supplementing a satisfactory pre-employment history, a physical examination should be made paying particular attention to signs indicating disease of the heart or lungs. The environment in which an employee may be required to work makes necessary this inquiry into the occupational history and physical condition to ascertain that there is no history of previous exposure which may cause impairment and no con-

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYERS REGARDING
PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

While general advice may be given to employers, it is less important in the case of physical disabilities. An employer engaged in a hazardous occupation should be advised that if a serious diagnosis is made by a physician, there is a strong chance of serious disability. The Committee recommends that employers engaged in work which is recognized as hazardous should be advised, such as exposure to illness, asbestos, or lead, to be examined semi-annually, or more frequently whenever there appear to be indications for doing so, with transfer of employees who are becoming impaired, to less hazardous work.