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Edmund M. Ferrari
Vice President
Director, Environmental Services
Health, Safety & Environment Department

March 19, 1979

Commander Joseph J. Bellanca, MC, USN
Bureau of Medicine & Surgery (Code 552)
Navy Department
Washington, DC 20372

Dear Dr. Bellanca:

In accordance with our telephone conversation of this morning, I enclose the following information.

I. Asbestos-Cement Pipe

A. A copy of the work practice booklet prepared by the Asbestos-Cement Pipe Producers Association entitled, "Recommended Work Practices for A/C Pipe."

B. A copy of the summary and conclusions from the report prepared by Equitable Environmental Health, Inc. of Berkeley, California which includes monitoring data from field operations utilizing the recommended work practices.

II. Asbestos-Cement Sheet

A. A copy of Johns-Manville's Research and Development Center report no. E411-T 377 entitled, "Tool Demonstration for U. S. Navy Seabees".

B. Xerox copy of photographs showing the tooling that has been developed for asbestos-cement sheet. A work practice document similar to that for A/C pipe is being prepared.

III. Asbestos Roofing Felt

A. A summary of asbestos fiber monitoring data from a series of construction sites where asbestos felt roofing was torn off and installed.

Monitoring data for spray application of asbestos reinforced asphaltic coatings has been developed by the Flintkote Company. They have informed me that the fiber levels in all cases are below the OSHA mandated limits. I would anticipate that brush application of similar products would generate even less airborne fibers.

Special tooling and work practices are not required when applying asbestos roofing felt or asbestos reinforced asphaltic coatings. The fibers are so firmly bound by the asphalt that the standard work practices are sufficient.

Fabrication of asbestos-cement products using portable power tools can generate airborne fibers in excess of OSHA limits. This occurs because these fabricating operations apply sufficient mechanical energy to the pipe or board to literally tear the fibers loose. In the case of A/C pipe, this problem has been overcome by the use of single point tooling and the recommendation that portable power saws not be used. In the case of A/C sheet, the problem is being solved by the use of special hand tools and the installation of dust control equipment on portable power tools.

I hope this information is sufficient for your needs. Please contact me if additional information is required.

Very truly yours,

Edmund M Zenne

EMF:jh
Encl.
cc R. P. Carter - Johns-Manville