

**SAFETY AND HEALTH
SERVICES REPORT**



Wausau Insurance Companies

2000 WESTWOOD DRIVE
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN 54401

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

BIR-849

FOR

E. W. Ostrander, Treasurer
Bird and Son, inc.
Washington Street
East Walpole, Massachusetts 02032

November 23, 1981

CONCERNING

Technical Center
East Street - East Walpole, Massachusetts

REPORTED BY

C. Simpson, CSP, senior safety consultant,
on November 5, 1981

PERSONS CONTACTED

John Arnold, director technical services
Patrick Donahue, senior engineer, product development
Ken Sutton, supervisor, asphalt products laboratory
Nick Leonardi, group leader, plastics division
Tom McShay, chemist
Cliff Patenaude, senior product engineer

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this call was to provide continuing assistance in the accident prevention effort. Areas of control reviewed include:

Safety Education and Training

We discussed the current employee safety education effort with emphasis on material handling, handling and storage of solvents and acids, and use and maintenance of personal protective equipment. Efforts in the aforementioned areas appear good.

A supply of Wausau Insurance Companies pamphlet "The Disablers" has been sent to Mr. Donahue under separate cover as an additional training aid.

Occupational Health

Emergency first-aid training, for several employees, has been scheduled within the month. Training will include proper treatment for acid and hot asphalt burns.

This report covers only conditions and practices observed and considered at the time of this call. It is not intended to indicate that any hazards are adequately controlled or that such conditions or practices meet the requirements of any applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, or ordinance.

If you have any comments or questions concerning this report, write to R. E. Hawkinson, Vice-President, Safety & Health Services.

Consultative safety and health services are available to all policyholders, and we encourage you to contact your servicing safety consultant whenever the need arises.

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It was suggested and agreed appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets be properly posted in areas where chemicals and solvents are being handled. This procedure provides a quick reference for employees during an emergency.

Exhaust ventilation systems for ovens and various processes within the asphalt products and plastic development laboratories are to be redesigned/modified by in-house engineering personnel. Services available from Wausau Insurance Companies were briefly reviewed.

Safe Working Conditions and Practices

Current facility safety inspection program and reporting form were discussed. Form appears adequate. Recognizing the fact of getting caught in machinery is a major injury cause in plastic extrusion operations. It was suggested and agreed a concerted effort be made to improve/extend point-of-operation and power transmission guarding on extruders' accessory equipment within the plastic products development department.

Previous suggestions for improvement have been complied with except 81-14. (Freight elevator's hoistway entrance protection). Corrective action is being coordinated by Mr. Roby.

A partial observation of current operations and conditions, within the first and second floor areas, prompted the following additional suggestions for improvement:

Second Floor

*Remove
hatch set*
81-19 - Environmental test chamber should be equipped with an appropriate emergency escape hatch/door. Location of the hatch/door should be properly marked and kept unobstructed.

81-20 - Appropriate nonskid material should be applied to the smooth steel floor plates within the environmental test chamber. Currently, this floor surface creates a potentially severe slipping and falling hazard for employees walking/working within the chamber.

First Floor

81-21 - Emergency stop buttons, on the plastic siding extruders, should be readily accessible to the operator.

81-22 - Nip points, created by inrunning rolls on the plastic siding extruders' accessory equipment, should be properly guarded. Reference Section 1910.219 of OSHA.

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81-23 - Automatic cutoff saws, on the plastic siding extruders' accessory equipment, should be properly guarded. Reference Section 1910.212 of OSHA.

81-24 - Slippery surface on the steel block platform adjacent to the currently active extruder, should be coated with a nonskid material. Currently, the smooth surface creates a potentially severe slipping and falling hazard for extruder operator/technician.

81-25 - A more appropriate storage area should be provided for full LPG cylinders. Appropriate "Danger - No Smoking" signs should be properly posted around the storage area with the rule strictly enforced. Reference Section 1910.178 of OSHA.

Agreement was reached regarding appropriate corrective action on aforementioned substandard conditions within the near future.

Housekeeping throughout the facility was above average. Messrs. Donahue and Patenaude were commended for the effort.

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cc: John Arnold
Patrick Donahue
Robert C. Roby (11)
Christine Fay - Frank B. Hall and
Company of Massachusetts, Incorporated

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