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MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF
HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL/
ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

November 19, 1970

A meeting of the members of the Health and Safety Council of the Asbestos Cement Products Association was held pursuant to notice at the Biltmore Hotel in New York, New York, on November 19, 1970 at 2 P.M. The following persons were present:

J. A. Main	Health and Safety Council/ACPA
S. E. Monoky	Certain-teed Products Corp.
H. R. Masler, Jr.	GAF Corporation
J. V. Magee	Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
C. L. Shockler	Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
A. H. Fay	National Gypsum Company
K. F. Netter	Supradur Corporation of New York
K. Schwarz	Supradur Corporation of New York
L. A. Tobey	United States Gypsum Company
E. Walls	Burns, Van Kirk, Jube & Kafer

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. James A. Main.

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on May 19, 1970 were approved as distributed to the members of the Council.

Mr. Walls presented the financial statement for the period March 1, 1970 through November 18, 1970. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. The financial statement was approved as submitted.

Mr. Main reported that 10,000 copies of the Recommended Practices brochure had been printed. One thousand copies were sent to each member company, and 2,000 copies were sent to the Secretary for distribution upon request. Mr. Main observed that

PRODUCED
JM-83

greater emphasis is continuing to be made in public media on the problems of lung health and exposure to massive doses of asbestos. He noted that the U.S. Senate had passed the Job Safety Bill and that continued proposals are being made to amend various municipal codes in this area. The public remains aroused on all subjects touching upon environment, and Mr. Main exhibited to the Council recent newspaper clippings attesting this public interest. Copies of these newspaper clippings are attached to these minutes.

The Chairman reminded the Council that at the time of its formation, there were two goals to which the Council undertook to direct its activities. The first goal was to advise the public that asbestos cement products, in place and under normal use, present no known health risk to the user or to the general public. This goal has been fulfilled in part by the publication of the Recommended Practices brochure. The second goal of the Council is to promote health and safety in those plants manufacturing asbestos cement products and in the environment around such plants, including stack emissions and pollution. Mr. Main noted that since the creation of this Council, Atlantic Asphalt & Asbestos had withdrawn from the manufacture of asbestos cement products and that Philip Carey and Cement Asbestos Products Company had resigned from the Council. Mr. Main distributed copies of the Insulation Hygiene Progress Report (Vol. 2, No. 2, Summer 1970) and "Partnership for Prevention - the Insulation Industry Hygiene Research Program" by Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, reprinted from Vol. 38, No. 3, Industrial Medicine and Surgery. These publications indicate how rapidly public concern is growing in the areas to which this Council is dedicated.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES BROCHURE

Mr. Main asked the representative of each company attending the meeting to report on the distribution and use by his company of the brochure published by this Council on Recommended Practices for Fabricating, Handling and Applying Asbestos Cement Products in the Building and Construction Industries. The members reported as follows:

GAF: At this time the Building Products Division will not distribute the brochure. The Industrial Products Division

PRODUCED
JM - 83

executives are now considering the brochure and their decision on distribution is awaited.

Certain-teed: The brochure is now awaiting approval of the Executive Vice President of Certain-teed. In Mr. Monoky's preliminary opinion, the brochure would probably not be distributed among employees in the factory, but might be distributed in the field.

Johns-Manville: The brochure has been distributed to all J-M plants manufacturing asbestos cement products, to all key production personnel, to salesmen, and to applicators and distributors engaged in the fabrication of asbestos cement products. In Mr. Magee's opinion, the brochure has been well received. Mr. Magee also noted that J-M has imprinted cautionary labels which are being inserted on each interleafing sheet of asbestos cement sheets manufactured by J-M. A copy of this label is reproduced and attached to these minutes.

Mr. Sheckler remarked that J-M includes copies of the brochure whenever it files material safety data sheets. J-M also encloses copies of the brochure when writing general bulletins to customers. Copies of the brochure are sent to other safety organizations and to governmental departments such as the Department of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare whenever inquiries are received about asbestos. A copy of the brochure has been sent to the magazine "Asbestos" and may conceivably be published by that magazine. No other magazines in the building field have as yet received the brochure. The consensus of the members was that the brochure should not be sent to magazines at this time.

U.S. Gypsum: Mr. Tobey reported that the brochure is being considered by those executives of U.S.G. responsible for safety practices. Mr. Tobey doubted that precautionary labels would be used on shingles. He stated that although asbestos is used in wall board joint compounds, the fiber amount so used is below the acceptable threshold limit.

Supradur: A copy of a letter prepared by Supradur describing the availability of the Recommended Practices brochure and sent to its customers was distributed to the members and is

PRODUCED JAN - 83

attached to these minutes. Mr. Schwarz reported that he has had no requests as yet for copies of the brochure. Mr. Schwarz also stated that no distribution of the brochure has been made to production personnel of Supradur.

[Philip Carey - Cement Asbestos Products Company]: The Secretary, Mr. Walls, was asked to ascertain from these companies what steps if any, they were taking in the distribution of the brochure.

National Gypsum: Mr. Fay reported that each account of NG using asbestos cement in industrial application (cooling towers, greenhouse manufacturers; etc.) has been contacted personally by members of the NG sales force. These customers have received copies of the brochure. No brochures have been sent to the general public nor to dealers or applicators because it is NG's position that the brochure is not applicable to them.

It was noted that various research organizations have inquired about health hazards of asbestos cement products and have been sent copies of the brochure. It was the opinion of the members that the matter of distribution and use of the brochure should be re-examined at the next meeting of the Council.

RESPIRATORS

The members discussed their experience with respirators currently being marketed. Mr. Sheckler reported favorable experience with the following respirators:

Mine Safety Appliance Dustfoe No. 77
Mine Safety Appliance Dustfoe No. 66
Wilson Monomask
American Optical 2000 Series
American Optical 9100T (Beehive Type)

It was noted that the Beehive Type respirator does not have a replaceable filter and is regarded as being an expensive disposable respirator.

Mr. Sheckler stated that new disposable filters for respirators are coming, or will shortly come, on the market. Some of these can be purchased for $1.30 each. Disposables

PRODUCED
JM - 83

are being produced by American Optical and will soon be produced by the Welsh Company. Mr. Sheckler volunteered to bring samples of the various respirators to the next meeting. He also noted that J-M is conducting a program at McGill University to study the efficacy of respirators to filter asbestos fiber. It was his hope that a further report could be made at the next meeting of the Council.

LABELING ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS

The members discussed experiences to date on the labeling of asbestos cement products. The following reports were received. GAF does not presently use a cautionary label on rigid siding or corrugated asbestos cement sheets. J-M does label thermal insulation products containing asbestos, thermal insulation cements containing asbestos, and asbestos fibers. It is expected that cautionary labels will be used on asbestos cement flat sheets in the near future. J-M does not label its shingles or siding or corrugated asbestos cement sheet or asbestos cement pipe. It is the policy of J-M to label only those products that may pose health and safety hazards.

ASBESTOS INFORMATION COMMITTEE/NORTH AMERICA

Mr. Fay reviewed with the Council the Asbestos Information Committee/North America. By way of preface, he stated that the Health and Safety Council had been formed with five objectives in mind: the first was medical research. It was decided that such research could best be handled by CAMA. The second objective was public relations. At the time of the formation of the Council it was felt that it was not appropriate for the Council to undertake such a program. The third objective was the exchange of information among asbestos cement manufacturers. The Council has attempted to keep manufacturers up to date with the most recent information in the area of health and safety. The fourth objective was the study and resolution of internal plant problems. The Council has encouraged mutual aid among its members in the identification and resolution of such problems. The fifth objective was the improvement of the relationship between asbestos cement producers and asbestos cement users. Part of this objective has been achieved through the publication of the Recommended Practices brochure.

PRODUCED
JM - 83

Mr. Fay stated that the public relations objective has developed in importance because of increased publicity about asbestos hazards which has been generated by consumer protection advocates, politicians and some scientists. Mr. Fay stressed two points: first, the true facts about asbestos are often ignored. Second, there is a great lack of understanding of these facts among the public. Because of these facts, industry members felt that a public relations program should be explored.

To that end, a meeting of ten manufacturing companies was sponsored by Certain-teed Products Corporation to launch Asbestos Information Committee/North America. For several years there has existed an Asbestos Information Committee in the United Kingdom. This Committee has tried to utilize public relations programs in response to misstatements of fact about asbestos and asbestos products. It was felt that a North American committee could be founded on lines similar to the Committee of the United Kingdom. A prospectus has been prepared for the AIC/NA and it was discussed in November at a meeting of ten companies manufacturing asbestos products. Some of those companies attending that meeting were Certain-teed, Flintkote, Johns-Manville, Philip Carey, Raybestos-Manhattan, GAF, Woodward Iron and National Gypsum. A copy of the prospectus discussed at that meeting is attached to these minutes.

The program for the AIC/NA would be a broad one encompassing many products utilizing asbestos such as brake linings, textiles, flooring, siding, roofing, etc. The program of the Committee will be funded by J-M for the year 1971 in the amount of $150,000. It is anticipated that funding for succeeding years will be shared in a mutually agreed manner by all member companies. The Committee has retained the public relations firm of Hill and Knowlton, which has prepared the public relations program for the AIC/UK.

Mr. Fay reported that the AIC/NA has been effectively launched. In his opinion, the activities of the Committee will probably be expanded and may be supported by other companies in the field. He noted that J-M will continue to maintain its own public relations program in addition to the program sponsored by the AIC/NA.

PRODUCED

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The Council considered the relationship between it and the AIC/NA. The initial consensus was that the Health and Safety Council can work in areas where the AIC/NA cannot. The Council can continue to focus its efforts on problems peculiar to asbestos cement products and can continue to act as a conduit for mutual aid and information. It was noted that the Asbestos Textile Institute and the National Insulation Manufacturers Association also support health and safety committees. It was felt that the Health and Safety Council might become part of a larger group dedicated to health and safety. Thus, QAMA might stress programs in medical research; AIC/NA might focus upon public relations and the Health and Safety Council, together with ATI and NIMA, might channel their efforts to industry health and safety problems and their resolution.

It was noted that AIC/NA will have as Chairman, Mr. Harold McNabb of Certain-teed. The 1971 program of the Committee will be evolved by Messrs. Raines and Svetonic, both of J-M. It is understood that in 1971 the Committee will attempt to prepare position papers on "Asbestos and the General Public" and "Asbestos and Human Health".

It was the opinion of the members that the AIC/NA would supplement other existing groups, but would not replace them. As far as the Health and Safety Council is concerned, there remain significant problems in the construction and building industries. These problems must be resolved, and the resolutions are more likely to be worked out within this Council. The public relations support for the resolutions to such problems would more properly lie within the sector of the AIC/NA.

DEVELOPMENTS

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Sheckler reported on developments subsequent to the meeting on May 19th. Mr. Sheckler noted that the Environment Protection Administration had promulgated interim orders governing the spraying on New York City construction sites of any insulation material containing asbestos. There is a proposal to include these interim orders in the revised New York City Building Code. It is understood that the Corporation Counsel of the City of New York is of the opinion that the Environmental Protection Administration

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JM -

has no authority to promulgate these orders. It is expected, however, that the City Council will take legislative action toward revising the New York City Building Code.

It was noted that the Code, if amended, would ban the use of asbestos as a spray. Under the proposed Code, it would appear that duct and duct liners must be coated. It is also possible that the Code will be interpreted to mean that coating is required on the plenum side of ceiling tile. The ramifications of the proposed Code are not clear and are being checked out by NIMA. There is considerable uncertainty whether the Code will affect the use of asbestos cement products in the City of New York because upon the demolition of buildings in which such products are used, these products would be exposed to the air. It is argued, therefore, that all asbestos cement products might conceivably be banned under the Code in light of the fact that they may ultimately be broken up and exposed to the air upon demolition of buildings. It is not certain what position the sprayed insulation group will take with reference to this Code proposal, but all developments are being watched by that group as well as by NIMA.

Mr. Shackler stated that in connection with prospective revision of the New York City Building Code and of other building codes, that he might be called upon to testify at hearings on such revisions. He asked that in the event he is called upon to present such testimony, he be entitled to speak in the name of this Council.

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED, that Mr. Shackler be and hereby is authorized to speak on behalf of the Health and Safety Council/ ACPA at any public hearings at which the utilization, fabrication, handling and application of asbestos cement products are being or may be reviewed in connection with the revision of or drafting of building codes.

NEW THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUES

Mr. Shackler reported that new Threshold Limit Values will be prepared. It is his understanding that the new TLV's will be 5 fibers per cubic milliliter of air 5 microns and

PRODUCED JM - 83

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longer as counted by use of the Millipore Sampling Method at 400X Microscopy with a time weighted average allowing excursions above 5 up to 10 fibers for 15 minute intervals in any one hour not to exceed 5 intervals in one day. This proposed TLV was reported by Dr. Cralley of the Public Health Service to Mr. Sheckler. When copies of the new American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists threshold limits are available, they will be submitted to members of the Council.

Mr. Sheckler reported that a conference is being called to explore hazards in the shipyards and shipbuilding industries. This conference will concern asbestos products. The National Insulation Manufacturers Association has been invited to participate and Mr. Sheckler will also attend.

Mr. Sheckler reported that he has been working on a series of pamphlets designed to educate employees on health risks and safety practices in conjunction with the use of toxic materials. Presentations from these pamphlets will be made by plant managers to union committees and/or any other media advising and counselling employees at the supervisory and manufacturing level. The response to this pamphlet series to date has been enthusiastic.

RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. Main announced his resignation as Chairman of this Council effective with this meeting. He explained that his retirement had, in effect, removed him from daily contact with the industry, and he felt that such distance hindered his effectiveness as chairman. In addition, Mr. Main noted that certain personal matters are now requiring additional attention, thus lessening the amount of time that he can devote to this Council. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the resignation of Mr. Main was accepted with great regret.

ELECTION OF MR. SHECKLER

The meeting discussed the election of a new chairman to succeed Mr. Main. Mr. Sheckler was asked if he would consider the chairmanship. He advised the meeting that his workload was so extensive that he could not accept such a chairmanship unless it be limited to a period of six months and unless Mr. Main

PRODUCED IN - 83

continue as Executive Secretary to the Council for that period.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED, that Mr. Sheckler be and hereby is elected Chairman of this Council to serve as such for the next six months and that Mr. Main be and hereby is elected to serve as Executive Secretary of this Council for the next six months.

Mr. Sheckler assumed the chair and asked the following members for reports to be presented at the next meeting:

Mr. Monoky - a report on occupational and community environmental control.

Mr. Mesler - a report on medical and physical in-plant programs.

Mr. Fay - a report on public relations liaison with AIC/MA.

Messrs. Magee and Schwarz - a report on the effects of adverse information on marketing and sales.

Mr. Sheckler - a report on medical and engineering scientific programs.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Council shall be called for Tuesday, February 23, 1971.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley Wells

Bradley Wells

PRODUCED JM - 83