PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
BIR-64

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM

BIRD & SON, INC.

PREFACE

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set maximum exposure standards for many airborne toxic substances. If employee exposure to these substances exceeds the standard set, they must be controlled. Control shall be accomplished as far as feasible by accepted engineering control measures. When effective engineering controls are not feasible, or while they are being instituted, appropriate respirators shall be provided for the employee. (1910.134)

Respiratory protection is also required when working in oxygen deficient atmospheres,i.e. where the oxygen content in the breathable air is less than 19%.

Respiratory protection may also be necessary for routine but infrequent operations, for non-routine or emergency conditions in which the employee is exposed only briefly to high concentrations of a hazard substance.

Therefore, this program is presented to provide a basis upon which Bird & Son, inc. can establish and implement a program of respiratory protection. Every effort must be made to comply with the guide lines that make up this program.

The success of this program, as with any operation program, is a line responsibility requiring participation of all management personnel and employees.

Robert C. Roby
Corporate Safety Manager

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SECTION I

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM

I. PURPOSE

A. A respiratory protection program is hereby established so as to coordinate the selection, use and maintenance of respiratory equipment necessary to (1) reduce employee exposure to toxic chemical agents; and (2) allow employees to work safely in hazardous work environments, e.g. oxygen deficient atmospheres and during incidents which may produce toxic gases, vapors and other toxic products of decomposition.

II. DESIGNATION OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

A. The location manufacturing manager or superintendent shall be responsible for administrating the program. When necessary, he may designate a person to be responsible for coordinating and implementing the various aspects of the program which consist of:

1. Supervision of respirator selection procedure.
2. Establishment of training sessions.
3. Establishment of a cleaning, storage and inspection program.
4. Establishment of issuance and accounting procedures for users of respiratory equipment.
5. Establishment of medical screening program/ procedures for employees assigned to wear respiratory equipment.
6. Establishment of a periodic inspection schedule of those work areas/conditions requiring respiratory equipment.
7. Continuing evaluation of the above aspects to assure their continued functioning and effectiveness.

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III. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

A. Evaluation of the Hazard:

Surveys of employee groups and/or processes pertinent to facility operations shall be conducted by the facility manager or his designated representative. The Hazard Evaluation Form No. RP-1, Appendix I, may be used in the formation of a decision to implement the use of respiratory protective equipment.

B. Upon completion of the hazard survey, the manufacturing manager or superintendent or the person designated may consult with the Corporate Safety Manager and/or the Chief Engineer in East Walpole, if necessary, to determine the feasibility of engineering and/or administrative control techniques.

IV. SELECTION/PURCHASE OF RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

A. The facility manager shall have the author y to select and purchase respiratory protectiv_ _quipment. Such equipment shall be selected only when approved by NIOSH and MSHA and has a TC approval number.

B. The type of respiratory equipment to control the exposure can be found by using the chart designated as (Appendix IIA) which is a NIOSH Certified Equipment list as of July 1, 1978.

C. Certain specific operations warrant the use of respirators as required by specific OSHA standards. Refer to (Appendix IIB.)

V. MEDICAL ASPECTS OF RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT USAGE

A. Only those employees who are medically able to wear respiratory protective equipment shall be issued such equipment.

B. General information for the examining physician can be found in (Appendix III.)

VI. ISSUANCE OF RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

A. All individuals who are assigned to wear protective equipment shall be provided respiratory equipment for their exclusive use.

Exclusions: Self-contained breathing apparatus used for oxygen deficient atmospheres/ incidents during which time toxic atmospheres are generated.

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B. A system (record) for recording users and types of equipment shall be implemented (see Appendix IV).

VII. FITTING PROCEDURES FOR RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

A. The proper fitting of respiratory equipment to the users shall follow the method as outlined in (Appendix V.)

VIII. RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT - MAINTENANCE, CLEANING AND STORAGE

A. Respiratory equipment maintenance, cleaning and storage shall be carried out in accordance with the instructions of the equipment manufacturer and/or procedure in (Appendix VI.)

IX. INSPECTION PROCEDURES

A. An inspection checklist shall be developed for respiratory protective equipment. A checklist is included in (Appendix VI.)

X. PROGRAM EVALUATION

A. The location manufacturing manager or superintendent or the person so designated shall evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

B. The Corporate Safety Manager shall conduct annual audits to determine conformance with this program.

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