

Mr. C. R. Eckert - South Bound Brook

Oct. 19, 1949

Messrs. Cowan - High - Maxwell - Robinson - Gordon

CALCILITE RESEARCH

Referring to our telephone conversation of Monday, I acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 18, in which you outline the progress you have been making in connection with the precision molding of Calcilite by the utilization of the 119-BFC formula and the 46-H formula.

This has been going along now for quite a period of time, which you will observe if you will refer to your letter to Mr. Cowan dated December 17, 1948, under the caption "Calcilite Progress Report". In this prior letter you covered the ground fairly well as to experiments made up to date in connection with these identical formulas.

The BIG QUESTION is how soon we can get in commercial production with a pre-set Calcilite composition. We have been struggling with that problem now for years and I regret to note that certain of our competitors have beaten us to it. I am referring specifically to the Owens-Illinois Co. who now produce a Kayle precision pipe covering in which the various pipe sizes meet together. This is something which we announced to our trade several years ago and even today the molded product does not seem to meet this requirement.

In addition, Paraffine Companies also made considerable progress, and as I advised you recently, they are now marketing a calcium-silicate type of precision molded product. It just happens that today I received copy of another patent which has been assigned to Paraffine on this particular type of insulation, namely, U. S. Pat. No. 2,453,498 of October 4, 1949, to Rubin Lewon and G. F. Lechich. You will observe that this particular patent discloses a method for preparing a pre-setting precision molded composition composed of diatomaceous earth, slaked lime, asbestos fibre and sodium hydroxide, which may perhaps give you some ideas.

In order to bring this question to a head, I have decided to appoint a committee composed of:

Messrs. C. R. Eckert - Chairman
J. V. Robinson
Paul Gordon
J. M. High

I give this committee full authority to effectuate the following:

- (a) Speed up the pre-setting program.
- (b) Ascertain what experimental equipment will be required in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of this operation.
- (c) After the experiments have been completed, formulate a program for going into commercial operation at the earliest possible date.

I shall await your further advices with considerable interest.

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