

FILE NAME: Owens Illinois (OWILL)

DATE: 1949 Aug 10

DOC#: OWILL021

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter from WI State Board of Health to
Algona Plywood & Veneer Co. RE Kaylo Dust Reports



The State of Wisconsin

WISCONSIN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DIVISION

STATE OFFICE BUILDING

1 WEST WILSON STREET

MADISON 2

August 10, 1949

Mr. G. R. Mercer
Superintendent
Algoma Plywood & Veneer Co.
Algoma, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Enclosed are three copies of the report of dust counts made in your Kaylo department on August 2.

We were pleased to find all of the counts to be very low, indicating excellent design and maintenance of your dust exhaust system.

It is difficult to set an accurate MAC (maximum allowable concentration) for the dust liberated into the air at your various Kaylo processing machines. An analysis of dust from the dust collector was analyzed by the laboratory of the U. S. Public Health Service and was found to contain 13% free silica and 5 to 12% asbestos. As both of these materials have about the same degree of toxicity, an MAC of 20.0 million would be permissible, assuming the dust breathed by the men to be the same as that caught in the dust collector. Experiments by a great number of investigators over the past years have shown that dust at the breathing level of the workers often has a different analysis than dust caught in the collector. The explanation is a matter of particle size — certain parts of the raw material break up more readily than others and result in different analyses for different size fractions of dust.

All that we can say, with any reasonable degree of certainty, is that the MAC for Kaylo dust would very likely be somewhere between 5.0 and 20.0 million particles per cubic foot. Fortunately, dust counts at your Kaylo processing machines have been so low that an exact MAC is not too necessary.

I believe that Mr. Blahnik might like to have a copy of the report for his records so I have sent along an extra copy in case you care to give it to him.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Fluck
William J. Fluck
Engineer

WZF:mjk
Encl



125

My copies - 1 - Blahnik - 1 - Humphrey - 1 - John Higgins - 1 - Cliff Fetter - 1 - Our file original OK? [Signature]

Worked Excellent. - to file by [Signature]



The State of Wisconsin
WISCONSIN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE UNIT
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
1 WEST WILSON STREET
MADISON 2

KAYLO DUST SURVEY

Plant: Algoma Plywood & Veneer Company

Location: Algoma, Wisconsin

Date of Survey: August 2, 1949

Routine dust counts were made at the breathing level of operators of various machines processing Kaylo. Results of the dust counts are listed in the following table:

Sample Number	Description	Dust Count MPCF
1	Portable saw -- third floor	0.7
2	Fay and Egan double cut-off saw	1.4
3	Single cut-off saw -- machine #21-50	1.3
4	Hattison rip saw -- feed end	1.7
5	Hattison rip saw -- discharge end	1.6
6	Jenkins saw -- feed end	2.6
7	Jenkins saw -- discharge end	1.1
8	Drum sander -- feed end	1.3
9	Drum sander -- discharge end	1.1
10	Jointer -- machine #21-59	0.8

*MPCF = Millions of particles per cubic foot of air.

Maximum allowable concentration (MAC) for asbestos dust = 5.0 MPCF.

SUMMARY

All atmospheric concentrations of dust were well below the MAC for asbestos dust of 5.0 million particles.

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DIVISION

William E. Flack
Engineer

WZF:msk
8/11/49