

SPI

THE SOCIETY OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY, INC.
250 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 17, N. Y. • MURRAY HILL 7-2675

MINUTES

Asbestos Technical and Standards Committee
(A Committee of the SPI Reinforced Plastics Division)

Commodore Hotel
New York, N. Y.

July 19, 1957
10:00 a.m.

Present:

D. V. Rosato, Chairman, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Reinforced Plastics Dept.,
Manheim, Pa. - AMS, F
Harvey E. Atkinson; E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Inc., Engineering Dept.,
Wilmington 98, Del. - CC
T. B. Blevins, Department of Army, Office, Chief of Ordnance, Washington
25, D. C. - CM
S. L. Burt, Army Ballistic Missile Agency, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville,
Ala. - CM
William F. Condon, Cordo Molding Products Co., 230 Park Ave., New York,
N. Y. - MATERIAL SUPPLIER
R. T. Crouch, Johns-Manville Research Center, Manville, N. J. - AMS
Howard T. Cusic, U. S. Polymeric Chemicals, Inc., P. O. Box 546, Canal &
Ludlow Sts., Stamford, Conn. - MATERIAL SUPPLIER
Harry L. Deas, Bendix Aviation Corp., Troy, N. Y. - F, RMS
Chase Donaldson, Plastic Laboratories, 5200 River Rd., Washington, D. C. -
F, R&D
Edward A. Farrell, American Smelting & Refinery Co., South Plainfield, N. J.,
- MATERIAL SUPPLIER
Bruce E. Godard, Bakelite Co., 30 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. - RMS
Sydney H. Hall, Durez Division, Hooker Electrochemical Co., Walck Rd., North
Tonawanda, N. Y. - RMS
Howard A. Hittner, Ordnance Corp., Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia 37,
Pa. - CM
Algerd F. Jerome, North American Asbestos Corp., 141 W. Jackson, Chicago,
Ill. - AMS
R. W. King, Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio - R&D
J. D. Lincoln, Continental Can Co., Mt. Vernon, Ohio - F
William E. Morris, Barrett Division, Allied Chemical & Dye Corp., 1 River Rd.,
Edgewater, N. J. - RMS
C. Paul Myers, Raybestos-Manhattan, Manheim, Pa. - AMS, F
Edward K. Rishel, Aero Materials Laboratory, Naval Air Material Center,
Philadelphia 12, Pa. - CM
G. R. Rugger, Picatinny Arsenal, Building 163, Dover, N. J. - CM

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Alex Sacher, Standard Insulation Co., 74 Paterson Ave., East Rutherford,
N. J. - RMS, AMS (prepreg)
T. J. Schelrer, Winner Manufacturing Co., P. O. Box 359, Trenton, N. J. - F
A. A. Smith, Havg Corp., 900 Greenbank Rd., Wilmington, Del. - RMS, F
K. W. Smith, Young Development Laboratories, Crescent Ave., Rocky Hill,
N. J. - F
L. Spiwak, Rogers Corp., Rogers, Conn. - RMS, F
John Tedl, E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Inc., Louviers Bldg., Newark,
Del. - CC
R. J. Wentland, The Richardson Co., 27th Ave. & Lake St., Melrose Park,
Ill. - F
Howard S. Wolko, Bell Aircraft Corp., P. O. Box 1, Buffalo 5, N. Y. - CC, CM
Charles L. Condit, Secretary, SPI, 250 Park Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

CM - Consumer, Military
CC - Consumer, Commercial
RMS - Resin Material Supplier
F - Fabricator
AMS - Asbestos Material Supplier
R & D - Research & Development

Under the direction of C. L. Condit of SPI, an organizational meeting of The SPI
Asbestos Technical and Standards Committee convened at The Hotel Commodore,
New York City at 10:00 a. m.

In calling the meeting to order, Mr. Condit asked each person present to intro-
duce himself and give his company affiliation.

Purpose

In his preliminary remarks, Mr. Condit told of the history of the Reinforced
Plastics Division of SPI, and in so doing, said that the Division has done an ex-
tremely commendable job over the years in servicing the industry. He reminded
those present that there were several Engineering and Technical Committees
formally organized under the Reinforced Plastics Division, each handling its
problems in a manner which will expedite completion of the scope of activities.
He told of the present active Technical Committees, such as those on Pipe,
Corrugated Panels, Boats, Electrical Flat Sheet Laminates, Preform, Premix
and others. Certain of the Committees, according to Mr. Condit, such as the
Corrugated Panel Committee, have set out to promulgate voluntary industry stand-
ards through the Department of Commerce.

On the other hand, other Committees depending upon the type problems they are
attempting to solve, set out to complete their work on a less formal basis. For
instance, the Preform Committee holding three meetings a year discusses at its
meetings the latest developments in materials, equipment, etc.

All in all, Mr. Condit concluded, each individual Committee writes its own ticket

of operation in assembling and disseminating engineering and technical information which will advance the industry which it represents.

In introducing the Chairman of the Asbestos Committee, D. V. Rosato of Raybestos-Manhattan, the Secretary said that Mr. Rosato was appointed some time ago by the Policy Committee of the Reinforced Plastics Division to ascertain whether in the opinion of the raw material suppliers and end-users there is an interest in a permanent organization of an Asbestos Technical and Standards Committee.

Scope of Activities

Chairman Rosato, in his opening remarks, said that reinforced asbestos plastics parts are finding increased usage and interest and that, therefore, it has been evident for some time now that an investigation should be made of the possible organization of an Asbestos Technical and Standards Committee under the sponsorship of SPI. He added that according to the bylaws of the Society, one of the purposes of the SPI is to assemble and disseminate scientific, engineering and other information on plastics for the industry and the military organizations; to promote social intercourse among those engaged in the plastics industry and generally through its activities to advance the application and use of plastics.

Mr. Rosato then submitted to those present a proposed agenda around which discussions would revolve in an attempt to agree on a scope of activity for an Asbestos Committee.

Mr. Rosato indicated that some time ago he contacted by letter approximately 200 companies in order to ascertain the interest which exists in the formation of an Asbestos Committee. As a result of this communication over 100 companies indicated an interest. Therefore, the day's meeting was called by the SPI office; using as a mailing list those companies expressing desire in joining the organization.

With these remarks, Chairman Rosato then asked for an open discussion as to what in the opinion of those present would be a logical scope of activity for the Committee. Several suggestions were made. Among them:

1. Itemize the essential characteristics of asbestos reinforced plastics products;
2. Itemize the principal products which are now being produced of asbestos.
3. Itemize the unique properties imparted by asbestos to finished products.

There did arise the question as to whether the Committee limit its scope to only asbestos; or, on the other hand, whether it would seem logical that the Committee cover all types of reinforcements, including glass. It seemed to be the consensus that the Committee would dilute its efforts should it cover at this time all types of reinforcements; that, rather, there are enough problems in the asbestos industry

warranting a separate Committee on Asbestos.

Chairman Rosato asked that those present indicate by a showing of hands the basic interest which each company has in the formation of an Asbestos Committee. As a result of this query, a sheet was circulated and each company designated its basic interest by code letters. (Please see listing of those present and the code designations following each name.)

Throughout the discussions, the Secretary indicated that it would be a good public relations move for the Asbestos Committee to agree that a permanent organization is desirable.

It was envisioned by several present that the group should study test methods of both the asbestos reinforcement and, in turn, the finished part.

It was revealed that the Asbestos Textile Institute has indicated interest in co-operating with the SPI in an effort to develop authoritative information on asbestos. It was pointed out that it would be highly desirable in the early stages of the organization to draw on the data which has been accumulated by the ATI.

An attempt was made to list several broad general categories of applications where asbestos reinforced products are reaching volume production. These include structural applications, such as beams and rods; electrical grade products; high temperature applications, such as for aircraft and missiles; premix compounds; chemical resistant applications; and others.

All in all, it was agreed that there are many avenues of approach in a study of asbestos applied to the reinforced plastics industry.

It was opined that it would be well to obtain from the Asbestos Textile Institute the types and grades of asbestos which are now being made available commercially to the plastics industry. It was deemed highly advisable to obtain all published data on present forms of asbestos through the ATI and leading companies in the field.

It seemed to be the consensus of those at the meeting that there is a great need to set up some sort of system whereby the various companies in the asbestos field educate one another. For instance, there is technical data in the hands of raw material suppliers of asbestos. The fabricators, on the other hand, have certain information. This is true also of the Military. If the Committee could agree on a scope of activity which would bring all of this data together, it would be according to those present a good educational move.

Then, too, the Committee could keep itself apprised of the various specifications on asbestos, not only those which exist in the United States but those from abroad, such as Great Britain.

It seemed to be agreed that as a first undertaking it would be well to formulate plans to disseminate information and data to those interested in the subject of

asbestos. For instance, it was pointed out that in missile applications there is the problem of high temperatures and undoubtedly the Committee through a coordinated effort can collect existing data on this subject, and in so doing, place it in the hands of those faced with the problem of applying asbestos to missile design.

Decomposition studies might also be made.

It was agreed that close liaison should be maintained with Mr. H.A. Perry, Jr. who heads up a Committee in ASTM which is considering asbestos as used in the reinforced plastics industry.

Agreement on Formal Organization

The Committee agreed that an Asbestos and Technical Standards Committee shall formally be organized; and for the present, at least, it shall cover only the subject of asbestos.

Agreement on Working Committee

Those present at the day's meeting then agreed that a concerted effort will be made to draw up questionnaire forms; and in so doing, conduct a field survey in order to obtain literature and industry requirements on the use of asbestos in the reinforced plastics industry.

The area of contacts in this literature search are to be made to each segment of the industry according to the following outline:

1. materials:
 - (a) asbestos
 - (b) resins
2. fabricators
3. consumers
 - (a) military
 - (b) commercial
4. research and development

Having agreed that questionnaires will be circulated to all segments of industry, Chairman Rosato then asked for volunteers to assist on a task group in drawing up the form or forms as the case may be. The following working group was organized:

D. V. Rosato, Chairman - Raybestos-Manhattan Co.

I. Material

(a) Asbestos:

Edward A. Farrell, American Smelting & Refining Co.
R. T. Crouch, Johns-Manville Corp.
H. F. Jerome, North American Asbestos Corp.

(b) Resin:

Bruce Gudarj, Bakelite Co.
L. Spiwak, Rogers Corp.

2. Fabricators

T. J. Scheirer, Winner Manufacturing Co.
Chase Donaldson, Washington, D. C.

3. Consumers

(a) Military:

S. L. Burt, Army Ballistic Missile Agency
H. S. Wolko, Bell Aircraft Corp.
G. R. Rügger, Picatinny Arsenal

(b) Commercial:

Harvey E. Atkinson) E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co.
John Tett)

4. Research and Development

Gerald J. Hoag, Battelle Memorial Institute

Having organized the above Subcommittees, the following action will now be taken:

1. D. V. Rosato will by correspondence with each individual on the Working Committee obtain detailed suggestions as to the essential points to be covered in the questionnaire.
2. A meeting of the task group will then be held by Mr. Rosato in order to formulate the details of the questionnaire.
3. The questionnaires will then be sent through the SPI Secretary.

Other Business

The Secretary suggested that it would be highly advisable for the Asbestos Committee to plan to obtain for the exhibit at the Thirteenth Annual Conference of the Reinforced Plastics Division typical commercial items made with asbestos as the reinforcing agent. The Committee wholeheartedly agreed that a concerted effort will be made to obtain such articles.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will probably be held in November but then only at the discretion of Chairman Rosato, depending upon the progress made in sending out the questionnaire.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted:

Charles L. Condit, Secretary

CLC:elbj

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