

FILE NAME: Firestone (FIRE)

DATE: 0000

DOC#: FIRE001

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Barry Castleman Notes on Firestone Docs Listed by Exhibit Number in Thomas Jackson Trial (2023)

Firestone -- BC Notes

[Left column: Exhibit No. in Thomas Jackson case, Chicago state court, 2023.]

- 36-37 CP Hall talc purchases by Firestone in Decatur IL
- 38 Asb. insulating cement , Al-Asb. Cloth, J-M pipe insulation at Decatur plant
- 39 Asb-clad steel tubing, gaskets, packing, rope, cloth, Marinite boards => Decatur
- 40 Brake shoes and brakes, packing insulation
- 41 History and description of Firestone Decatur plant (1982)
- 42 Drawings of Decatur plant
- 273 2000 report on asbestos insulation at Decatur
- 279-280 Asbestos abatement at Decatur (2000)
- 299 2-18-48 memo from corporate IH Mallette to McGregor (L.A. plant) offering dust counting service as had been done at Indiana plant "where we have an exposure to Asb. dust."
 - 2-27-48 Reply from JA Moore at L.A. plant declining Mallette's offer, saying that a consultant was called in to take dust counts that enabled the company to settle union grievances. Referring to the availability of such services by the corporate IH's in Akron, "we have never felt the need for work of this kind out here and have stayed away from it as much as possible because the implication of making the dust count is that we are worried about conditions and the making of the count often gives the employee the wrong idea."
- 302 1949 published report by Hogue and Mallette, "A Study of Workers Exposed to Talc and Other Dusting Compounds in the Rubber Industry", referencing 1942 and 1943 reports on NY talc miners by Porro and Siegal et al. (JIHT 31: 359-364, 1949)
 - 2-20-50 Eastern Magnesia Talc Co. letter notes that a Firestone Safety Engineer advised that "the use of pyrophyllite talc and tremolite was harmful"
 - 1963 NSC report, "Dusts, Fumes, and Mists in Industry" stamped received in 1963
- 7-27-67 Dr. L. Ballou memo to JA Meek -- Corp. Med. Dir. urges the establishment by Rubber Mfgs. Assn. of a medical advisory council to conduct industry-wide studies and establish guidelines for better "safeguarding the worker against toxic exposures and the

industry against fraudulent or unjustified claims.” Refers to similar med. committees in the oil and chemical industries.

- 317 1969 (and 1963) Firestone corporate health and safety manual
- 318 1970 National Safety Congress (p. 23) G Wilson (Firestone) paper, “Proper Labeling of Hazardous Materials in Industry”
 - Cites MCA labeling manual
 - Name of product, preferably the chemical name, “non-descriptive code should not be used as only identification for a hazardous chemical”
- 319 1-19-70 letter from URW President Peter Bommarito to Firestone Dir. Ind. Relations JV Cairns, on asbestos
 - Noting LCa and Meso hazard
 - Req. info on use of asbestos in each plant, incl. IH studies, air sampling tests, and reports on what was done to protect the workers
- 320 1-15-70 memo by (IH) G Wilson to 18 plants, “Asbestos Usage” asks about usage of Code 17 (talc) and asbestos used in other forms such as insulation
- 852 4-10-69 Dr. Ballou memo to Decatur plant transmits G Wilson rept. raising concern over dust hazards and rubber worker claims for compensation for lung cancer from dusts
- 853 2-9-70 G Wilson memo “Re Asbestos Usage” in Decatur plant, “Code 17 uses asbestos.”
2-5-70 rept from safety director Burton to G Wilson on Decatur plant use of Code 17
- 854 2-17-70 Dr. Ballou complaint to mgmt. that the union justly protests non-labeling of chemicals on their toxicity. Asks to set up corporatewide procedure w/safeguards and compliance.
- 856 6-19-70 Firestone-URW agreement to set up Joint Occupational Health Program
- 891 1-31-73 Liberty Mutual report to plant manager describes asbestos survey of 11-21-72, describing hazards at Decatur plant and recommends worker training on safer practices, respirators, safety clothing in handling Asbestine Pigment No. 17.
- 894 3-26-73 G Wilson urges that because of OSHA, recommends “that action be taken to assure that talcs and similar materials we purchase be free of asbestos and tremolite.”
- 367 5-21-73 Firestone IH J Eric Mehler to Akron plant mgrs. asking about safeguards when asbestos insulation is installed, repaired or removed (respirators, local exhaust ventilation), asks if outside contractors are used for this work
- 895 8-16-73 memo “Code 17, Asbestine” describes quantities of monthly use at Firestone

US plants

- 51 9-25-73 corporate IH (G Wilson) memo transmitting booklet on Asbestos Dust prepared for NIOSH to Firestone managers
- 896 11-12-73 Wilson 7-pp memo to Firestone CEO Cairns describes Decatur plant visit by URW safety specialist Lou Beliczky, who was critical of management, finding numerous health and safety hazards
- 903 3-26-74 URW request to OSHA for inspection of Decatur plant, claims company tries to hide problem areas during OSHA inspections
- 905 11-14-74 "Talc Dust" Confidential memo attaches article from National Enquirer (11-5-74) "Talcum Powder Can Cause Cancer" asking what hazard is posed by talc used at Firestone
- 341 8-16-77 corr. from Earl Arp, UNC, to corporate IH T. Georgiadis enclosing a list of products used at Firestone listing "Trade Names with Carcinogenic Hazards" including over 100 asbestos products, most with trade names not mentioning asbestos. List compiled by NIOSH.
- 927 Nov. 1977, Steven Blum report, Stomach Cancer Among Rubber Workers, on excess rate of stomach cancer at two rubber plants: "Because of the common use of talc as a detackifier, and the possible contamination of talc with asbestos, which is a suspect stomach carcinogen, the possibility exists that asbestos exposure may explain a substantial proportion of the observed stomach cancer excess."
- 931 1-12-78 IH RD Hofer memo "Replacement of Code 17" (Vanderbilt talc) recommends that Code 17 use by Firestone be ended: "I) Code 17 is believed to be composed largely of Asbestiform tremolite and anthophyllite fibers, based on analysis from Firestone Chemical Laboratory, Traveler's Insurance Laboratory, and NIOSH Study of Vanderbilt's Products." Goes on to say asbestos is carcinogenic, describes regulatory and media exposure from continued use, availability of satisfactory replacements.
- 933 2-9-78 OSHA inspection of Decatur plant cites 34 hazard categories incl. A shields in front of curing press
- 934 3-10-78 Closing Conference of OSHA inspection 2-9-78 reviews airborne hazards, noise, safety issues
- 939 Sept. 1978 UNC mortality study of rubber workers in 42 plants finds SMR=119 for all cancer in retirees (LCa = 145)
- 372 12-5-79 "Asbestos Manual" distributed to US and Canadian Firestone plant safety

engineers reviewing requirements of OSHA and EPA regulations

964 11-4-82 T Georgiadis internal IH rept. on Decatur plant, Asb sheet “plattens” insulating curing presses tend to break exposing maintenance workers. Calls for plant specs using available non-asbestos plattens

973 4-1-85 OSHA inspection notice and memo --
Damaged insulation and broken Asb platten pads causing contamination

978 4-10-86 “statements to use” on chemical and asbestos includes statement that Firestone had monitored Asb exposures in plants since 1970

807 Feb. 1989 URW-NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation

- Med. survey found parenchymal and pleural changes consistent with A’sis (2.2%)
- Corp. OSHA exposure data 1979-1985 in rubber mfg – mean 0.4 f/cc, 3% exceeded 2 f/cc
- Much Asb still remains in power plants

Other Relevant Admissions and Documentation

Firestone owned Worldbestos making asbestos brake pads 1942-1975, had a rep on the Asbestos Study Group of FMSI in 1971-1975.

Firestone was in IHF 1944-46, 1948- ?? acc. to IHF member cards

Firestone was a member of Rubber Mfgs Assn and was a founding member of NSC

Firestone had members of ASME, received JIH starting 1929, Arch Env Health, IJS papers including JAMA 1964

Exhibit Numbers are from the Thomas Jackson case in Chicago, 2023.