

including the date, time, location, results obtained person making tests, and calibration date of equipment shall be maintained at the job site. If concentrations reach 25 parts of carbon monoxide per million parts of air (0.0025 percent), tests should be made more frequently (concentrations should not exceed 35 parts per million (0.0035 percent) at any time at employee breathing zones. When concentrations do exceed this level, employees shall leave the area and additional natural or mechanical ventilation shall be provided.

No persons shall be permitted to be within the area being heated by the salamanders except when tending them, when testing the atmosphere, or in emergencies.

Throughout the discussion of the proposed standards Robert M. Farrell, safety director, International Union of Operating Engineers, Countryside, Ill., said that this standard should not be promulgated because salamanders are only permissible under interim orders in three states and the District of Columbia and that only a few are still being manufactured. "We are virtually making a standard for a piece of equipment that basically does not exist," he said. Farrell alluded to the difficulty in getting covers for salamanders due to the fact that most salamanders now in use are fabricated by the construction companies using them and the present materials shortages could deter compliance. "It's an unenforceable code," he said.

Asbestos

OSHA WILL PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO RULES FOR ASBESTOS IN NOVEMBER, AIA IS TOLD

Amendments to the standard for occupational exposure to asbestos, 29 CFR 1910.93a will be proposed on or about November 1, according to Harry Gilbert, project officer, Office of Standards, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Addressing the Asbestos Information Association in Washington, D.C., on September 11-12, Gilbert said the new standard probably will become effective in June, 1975.

Citing recommendations made by the AIA (Current Report, August 22, p. 327), he noted not all may be adopted by OSHA, but all will be given careful consideration. Deleted from the present standard will be those requirements that "are an onerous burden on employers with no benefit to health and safety, in an effort to aid in voluntary compliance since there are limitations on the number of industrial hygienists and compliance officers available to make inspections," he said.

Dr. Daniel Boyd, director, OSHA Office of Standards, said more efficient standards-making processes are needed to avoid duplication of efforts. If a standard is developed by a consensus organization it undergoes an extensive process, and "I've got to take it through CBI," he said, adding the American National Standards Institute has been named as an integrating agency for all organizations dealing with standards development. Boyd said ANSI has been "very responsive" to the needs of OSHA. He referred also to a new task force in the Standards Office, headed by Dr. Don Lassiter (see related story this issue) which will set priorities for standards development. Boyd said once these priorities are established, the standards setting mechanism will be engaged in the most efficient way possible.

ANSI will have a full-time Washington, D.C., director of safety and health who will deal closely with OSHA. ANSI will not write the standards, but will coordinate with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH),

and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and other consensus groups, where input is needed. Boyd noted also the need for better coordination with other Government agencies.

Reorganization

Assistant Labor Secretary John H. Stender said OSHA recently completed a major reorganization of the Office of Standards Development, increasing the staff, and realigning it along task force lines. "This will permit us to anticipate problems like asbestos, pesticides, and vinyl chloride before they are upon us," he said. Stender noted also the joint OSHA-National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health standards completion project that will produce complete health standards for over 400 toxic substances.

Union Charges

Sheldon W. Samuels, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO, discussed corporate integrity, noting people hired by industry "are incapable of objectivity and candor." He called the decision on the part of major industry not to hire a medical director, or to hire "one who would tell you what you want to hear, is mindless, and stupid." This increases the intensity of the disruption in the workforce, he added.

Referring to the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, Organization Resources Counselors, and other similar groups, he said activities of these organizations in the area of safety and health "border on white collar crime."

Threshold limit values have, in many cases, "been purchased," and "should be proven," he said.

ORC View

Leo Teplow, Organization Resources Counselors, Inc., Washington, D.C., said business has been so extraordinarily successful in some respects, it should be known that safety and health is a major preoccupation of management.

Teplow referred to the similarity of goals between management and organized labor and noted that "confrontation" should be avoided and replaced by "food for thought." He said the asbestos standard, since it was the first developed by OSHA, had no patterns to follow. It was important because the issues raised went far beyond one industry and one substance.

He commended AIA, noting industry can help bring essential facts to bear on OSHA decisions and "AIA has done this."

Johns-Manville

Dr. Paul Kotin, vice president, health, safety, and environment, Johns-Manville, said "safe exposure levels exist, if exposure at certain levels does not increase risk of disease."

Industry accepts the responsibility for workers exposed to asbestos, including those in the "incubation period," he said. Threshold limit values are maximum allowable concentrations, expressions of a series of judgments not end points, he said. Industry cannot be satisfied with acceptance of TLV's if it can be shown that hazards exist, he added. Industry must try to distinguish between fact and opinion in an effort not to replicate absence of fact over the next decade. Asbestos can be safely mined, milled, fabricated, and used, he said, noting that the AIA will be successful only to the extent that it is aggressive.

Kotin said the asbestos industry should not hire workers who smoke any more than a "person with polio would be hired to paint the Golden Gate Bridge," noting the problems inherent in hiring "high risk" persons.