PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

USG-1670

AMERICAN MUTUAL LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY

REPORT OF
OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE STUDY
UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY
SWEETWATER, TEXAS.



BY

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CSQ12 1462

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to secure samples of talc, and have them analysed for free silica content, and to evaluate the dermatitis hazard from solvents used in the plant.

This report is intended to aid you and others in your organization responsible for your safety program to reduce the incidence of occupational disease. It is intended to bring to your attention examples of hazards and conditions deemed by the industrial hygienist to most need your prompt consideration and attention. It is not intended to imply that other hazards and conditons are under control at the time of this visit or of other visits.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The talc used in this plant at the time of this visit contains 3.2 percent free silica. The threshold limit value for talc as recommended by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists is 20 million particles per cubic foot of air. The talc is used in this plant to lubricate boards at the board stacker. This process was not in operation at the time of this visit. Air samples taken at other Gypsum plants with a similar operation have produced very low dust concentrations, therefore it is considered that the possibility of a health hazard at this operation in Sweetwater is remote.

2. No known cases of dermatitis from the use of solvents have occured at this plant in the past eighteen months.

RECOMMENDATIONS

None

DISCUSSION

The author, Mr. S. W. Foote, accompanied by Mr. Fred Becker, Dallas Engineer, visited the United States Gypsum Company, Sweetwater, Texas, on May 10, 1965. A sample of talc used in the lubrication of boards at the board stacker was secured and analysed for free silica content. The results of this analysis may be seen on the attached enclosure titled "Mineral Dust Analysis Table."

The following solvents are used in this plant: Chlorothene, used by the maintenance department, solox (denatured alchohol), used in the laboratory to clean screens, and acetone, used in the laboratory to dry plaster on screens.

Mr. Huggins stated that as far as he knew no cases of dermatitis had occured in this plant, from the use of these solvents.

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DATE JUN 28 1965

MINERAL DUST ANALYSIS TABLE

PLANT U. S. GYPSUM CO. LOCATION SWEETWATER, TEXAS

Laboratory Sample No.	Your Sample No.	Description	Per Cent Free Silica Found
MD 1302	1	Talc.	3.2 %

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