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7. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

MEETING OF DIRECTORS - CANARY ISLANDS

REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

1. A meeting of the Technical Committee was held at the ACL Conference Room, Mooney Street, Thetford Mines, on March 10th. All member companies were represented and eleven persons were in attendance.

2. A brief resumé of the main activities of the Committee since the last meeting follows:

2.1 Quebec Standard Test: - Preliminary tests utilizing two new sets of stainless steel ISO screens and 500g specimens have been completed, and the results are now in the process of being analyzed. The general assembly and other drawings for the QST machine should be completed by the end of March.

2.2 Wet Classification: - The statistical analysis for the QAMA/ASTM T&N and Bauer-McNett round-robin tests with amosite and chrysotile were reviewed and indicated t at the repeatability and reproducibility of the two test methods were approximately the same.

The results of preliminary tests with a 3F grade and four and five-tank McNett classifiers, aimed at improving the test procedure for 3-group fibres, were circulated for comments and suggestions. The Wet Classification Subcommittee will conduct tests with two grades to investigate the effect of variations in the lug dimensions, etc. of the McNett classifier on the test results before the next meeting.

2.3 Filtration: - Changes in the design of the Freeness tester were reviewed, and the Subcommittee will submit its final recommendations by the end of March.

Extensive tests carried out at the Sherbrooke Laboratory with the Soil test centrifuge and kerosene retention apparatus on commercial asbestos-cement slurries gave promising results. However, it was recommended that the Fibrator (original JM apparatus revamped by T&N) be thoroughly investigated before a decision is made on the filtration procedure for AC slurries.

2.4 Wet Volume: - Agreement has finally been reached on the dimensions of the 1000 and 2000 ml graduated cylinders for specification purposes. A revised drawing for the 2000 ml graduate has been prepared for inclusion with the 1976 revisions to the Test Manual.

2.5 Thermogravimetric (TGA) Analysis: - The final report for the TGA round-robin was distributed and discussed. Another round-robin is planned to further investigate the TGA procedure. In the new series of tests, variables, such as size of sample holder, will be minimized for improved results.

2.6 Energy Conservation: - The Subcommittee was requested to proceed with the 1976 energy audit and prepare a report for submission to Ottawa by the end of June.

2.7 Moisture Content: - The new Subcommittee has investigated the Anacon analyzer and found it to be suitable for determining the moisture content of mill feeds.

2.8 Test Manual: - Proposed revisions to the Test Manual (3rd Edition) were reviewed. The revisions will be re-edited

and circulated to all member companies for comments during the month of April.

G.F.A. Brink,
Chairman