

Asbestos Millboard. Business for this material continues at a good level and the recent price increases are holding stable. This situation should continue for the remainder of the year.

Corrugated & Flat. Although somewhat slow at present, business continues to run ahead of last year and is expected to continue upward for the balance of the year. New flat sheet products and finishes should contribute to this upward trend.

High Pressure Insulation. This market is still very good and inquiries from engineering firms and owners are at a strong level. Prices are still holding firm with an indication of possible future increase. It appears that the demand will increase somewhat in the third quarter with a much larger increase in the fourth quarter.

Low Pressure Insulation. Volume of business and prices remain steady. This condition is expected to remain for the rest of the year.

Asbestos Cement Shingles—Roofing & Siding. The present volume of business is better than it has been for several years although the pricing situation is highly competitive. Eastern areas seem to be moving at a somewhat quicker pace than the south and midwest. This upward trend is expected to continue for the balance of the year. On the whole, business seems to have reached a plateau after several years of decline.

The above comments have been made by various informed executives in the industry. All comments are welcome.

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ASA-225

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Page 26

"ASBESTOS" — August 1963

YOUR QUESTION MAY HAVE BEEN ANSWERED... YESTERDAY!

As a producer of 100,000 tons of chrysotile asbestos fibre annually, we have made research on asbestos a part of our daily business.

At the Asarco Central Research Laboratories, where we continually conduct both basic and applied research, that question you face today — or one similar to it — may have been answered yesterday.

Write today on your company letterhead. For data on Lake brand quality, prices, delivery and service, mention your end product. Write to Asarco International Corporation, 120 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y., distributors for Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Ltd.

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ASBESTOS REINFORCED PLASTICS

By: Wayne D. Jackson

(Mr. Jackson is Section Chief of the Reinforced and Molded Plastics Section of Johns-Manville Research & Engineering Center, Manville, New Jersey)

Asbestos is one of the most prominent fibers other than glass used today in reinforced plastics. The use of asbestos fibers as structural reinforcements in plastics, although not new, is growing at a rapid pace.

Two types of fibers are used in reinforced thermosetting plastics; namely, chrysotile and crocidolite. The physical form of the asbestos fiber may vary from the loose fiber used in cement to paper, felt, or mats and to a lesser extent, cloth used for laminated and molded items.

Asbestos reinforced plastic materials (ARP) are being used in several distinct product areas such as corrosion-resistant structures, electrical items and high-temperature and erosion-resistant parts for aerospace applications. Other reinforced plastic parts today use asbestos reinforcements as the chemical-resistant barrier on the exposure side and then use other materials such as glass fiber as a backup material to provide increased strength.

ARP materials, in such uses as pipe and fittings, because of the diameter and length of the individual fibers coupled with the high degree of wetting by the resin, do not exhibit the "wicking action" frequently encountered with long fibrous reinforcements exposed to corrosive liquid applications.

Asbestos papers, felts and fabrics have been used for many years for selected electrical applications. One of the more recent developments provides a rigid asbestos reinforced laminate composition that is suitable for Class H type of electrical insulation. Resin-treated asbestos millboard is being used in resistor bases and toaster mounts. Asbestos reinforcements are also used to a lesser extent in the preparation of compound for molded electrical applications.

A long history of satisfactory performance has been encountered in the use of asbestos reinforced plastic parts in many of today's aerospace applications. ARP parts are

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AUTOMOBILE SALES

MARCH 1964 The Automobile Manufacturers Association, Detroit, Michigan, has issued the following statistics for March 1964 of motor vehicle factory sales from plants in the United States and Canada: passenger cars 718,043, trucks and buses 142,510; total for March 1964 was 860,553 compared to 782,529 in March 1963. Total motor vehicles for the first three months of 1964 amounted to 2,546,283.

ASTM METRIC PRACTICE GUIDE has been prepared to provide both present units and their converted equivalents in the recognized international units of the Systeme International (SI). These equivalents will be included in all future ASTM standards. To serve the interests of both science and industry, ASTM has assumed a position of leadership, working with other organizations toward the development and use of a common system of measurement. The metric system is official for all nations except the British Commonwealth and the United States. Because U.S. industry faces increasingly stiff competition in countries using the system, its specifications must also include metric terms. While ASTM believes it desirable and necessary for industry to prepare for wide use of the metric system, it does not now advocate or recommend any change in presently established values or tolerances but, rather, advocates publishing both the present units and their precise metric equivalents.

A single copy, requested on company letterhead, will be sent without charge from the *American Society for Testing and Materials*, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Additional copies are 25¢ each and discounts on quantity orders are available upon request.

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Page 20

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