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MINUTES OF THE ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE
FIBRE TESTING COMMITTEE MEETING - 8TH FEBRUARY, 1968

LOCATION: Room E, Mezzanine Floor
The Roosevelt Hotel, New York, N.Y.

PRESENT:

Members: G.F.A. Brink, Chairman - Asbestos Corporation Limited
D.E. Childers - H.K. Porter Company, Inc.
R.J. Dodds-Hebron - Bell Asbestos Mines Limited
B. Lincoln - Turner & Newall Limited
W.C. Streib - Johns-Manville Corporation
T.T. Tigert - Cassiar Asbestos Corporation Limited
J.P. Wronski - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

Visitors: C.H. Schoch - Bell Asbestos Mines Limited
W.H. Smith - " " " "

BUSINESS:

1. The outcome of the Magnetic Rating Round Robin on three asbestos fiber samples at different laboratory locations and the conclusions based on the statistical analyses of the results were reviewed with members of the Technical Committee (6), Mr. Paul O. Nicodemus, Chairman of Subcommittee A-4, ASTM Committee D-13, and other affiliated ASTM members (3) present, as follows:

1.1 Metallic influence can have a drastic result on the Mapes test, however, if the test is run correctly and the equipment zeroed properly, the influence of metallics can be overcome.

Note 1 - During the course of discussion, it was pointed out that, due to differences in construction, it was not always possible to zero all models of the Mapes apparatus in the presence of metallic influence.

1.2 The continuing F x C interaction leads to the conclusion that fiber sampling and/or fiber conditioning is an important procedural technique to be improved in all magnetic rating tests.

1.3 From the Round Robin, there is no major evidence of superiority of T. & N. over the Mapes Test from a reproducibility standpoint between companies. The advantages of the T. & N., however, are ease of operation, less susceptibility to magnetic influence, and its initial cost.

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2. The recommendations of the joint session were as follows:

2.1 That the ASTM Magnetic Rating Test Method be rewritten indicating a preference for the T. & N. apparatus and retaining Procedure "A" of the present ASTM D-1118 procedure as an alternative.

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- 2.2 That the custody of the remaining standard magnetite Sample No. 29(a), or equivalent reference standards, now in the possession of Mr. Paul Nicodemus be transferred to ATI for safe keeping; and that the Fibre Testing Committee take action to acquire a supply of suitable iron oxide for the preparation of calibration standards and arrange for its dispensation through the ATI Executive Secretary in the future (This recommendation was subsequently approved by the ATI Board of Governors).
- 2.3 That the Technical Committee, in conjunction with Subcommittee A-4, ASTM Committee D-13 members interested, organize a Round Robin to investigate the performance and reproducibility of the T. & N. apparatus for the testing of textile products before the new Magnetic Rating Test Method is finalized (Round Robin to include the laboratories involved in the recent Fibre Testing Committee's Round Robin plus other ATI member companies interested).
- 2.4 That the Fibre Testing Committee carry out some exploratory testing with a natural-crudy fiber to investigate the effect of the sampling procedure on the reproducibility of the Magnetic Rating Test (Three member companies indicated their desire to participate in this study).
3. Interest was rejuvenated in a test method for determining the undesirable rock and spicular content of spinning fibres (Two laboratories indicated that they were currently considering suitable approaches to this particular problem).
4. Recent activities of the QAMA Technical and ASTM D-30 Committees (Subcommittee III) of interest to ATI were briefly reviewed.
5. New Business.- The chairman indicated that an agenda would be mailed out one month in advance of the next meeting to stimulate interest in the Fibre Testing Committee's activities; and to assist in guiding its future program to best meet the requirements of ATI.

G.F.A. Brink, Chairman
ATI Fibre Testing Committee

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Minutes

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE Sales Promotion Committee February 8, 1968 Hotel Roosevelt - New York City

Attending this meeting were Messrs. J.L. Rainey and J.W. Christenbury of American Asbestos Textile Corporation, N.L.A. Martucci and Alexander Kuzmak of Garlock, Inc., E.A. Schuman of Johns-Manville Corp., J.L. Mitchell of Tallman-McCluskey Fabrics Company, R.P. Clark of Uniroyal, Inc., P. Jay Flocken, (Legal counsel), H.E. Sunbury, (Secretary), and M.Q. Scowcroft of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

Efforts to place the display cabinet owned by the Institute have now been exhausted. Raybestos-Manhattan offered to store the cabinets pending completion of their new office building in Manheim, Pennsylvania where it will eventually be placed in their lobby. The committee voted to accept the offer and the matter was turned over to the Board of Governors for further action.

At the meeting held in Hilton Head, S.C. last October the committee discussed a proposal presented to it by the Edward W. Robotham Company for an advertising program aimed at promoting the use of asbestos textiles in a general rather than a specific end product usage as an effort to combat the intrusion of alternate materials in many of our traditional fields. Between that meeting and the meeting held February 8th, generally discouraging reports came back from most member companies. Because of the lukewarm reception at top management level it was voted to shelve the program temporarily. However, it was recorded that most of the members of the committee felt that there was genuine merit in the program and that it should not be permanently set aside.

The purchasing policies of the Government procurement program was discussed in detail. Rather than have legal counsel pursue the matter in an attempt to influence them to adjust this policy, it was agreed that the committee assign two members to visit the D.S.A. in Columbus, Ohio in an attempt to educate ourselves as to the reasons for these purchasing policies and to attempt to obtain relief from them. R.P. Clark of Uniroyal, Inc. and M.Q. Scowcroft of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. were assigned this task. A full report will be submitted to the committee following the call at Columbus and prior to the next meeting.

A detailed discussion was held concerning the hazards involved in the processing and use of asbestos textiles and the affect of adverse publicity concerning asbestos in the market place. While the subject of Health Hazards is of proper concern to the Sales Promotion Committee it was felt that anything we might do at this time in the form of attempting to set industry standards on what might be called "Dust Free" or "Lint Free" fabrics would introduce far more problems than benefits for the Industry.

Information had reached members of the Institute that the U.S. Navy had eliminated the use of asbestos cloth as insulation aboard Naval

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ships. This was thoroughly investigated and found to be entirely false. But it has been learned that one private shipyard has eliminated asbestos and replaced it with glass cloth in at least one popular style of cloth. Members agreed that a stepped up and continuing program of contacting the Navy Department in Washington is worth our efforts.

Competition from Japanese cloth in the United States was also discussed in detail. It was suggested that Japanese cloth does not approach the quality of fabrics manufactured by member companies particularly in relation to their flame resistant characteristics and we are working up data to use as ammunition in this area.

A specific application of rubber coated asbestos sleeving accused of being the culprit in a corrosion problem with air-frame manufacturers was discussed. No specific action was taken since it was understood that a member company was fighting this substitution with its own active task force.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Q. Scowcroft,
Chairman

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