C O P Y

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HASKELL LABORATORY FOR
TOXICOLOGY & INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

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REPAUNO WORKS

ASBESTOS SURVEY

This report covers a survey of 8/15/72 of some of the asbestos-handling operations at the Repauno Plant. In the insulation shop, asbestos is scored or cut in preparation for its use in the field. Asbestos is handled only about three to four hours per month in the shop. There are approximately 13 men involved with insulating operations of which 60-70% of the insulation handled contains asbestos.

With this report is a table showing the results obtained in this survey. There does not appear to be a problem complying with the time-weighted average allowable concentration of 5 fibers per milliliter of air. This is based upon both the concentrations and the time involved with handling asbestos products. However, the ceiling limit criteria of 10 fibers per milliliter is either exceeded or is a borderline situation for a number of operational procedures.

It is permissable for the operators to wear respiratory protection but engineering and other control measures should be contemplated for reducing the workers' exposure.

A number of items that require attention are as follows:

1) Wetting asbestos pieces prior to removing cloth cover and, if needed, prior to scoring and cutting;

JWP: COMMENTS: PURCHASE 16 SPRAYERS FOR TRIAL.

2) By reducing the open area between the lower surface of the band saw table and the exhaust opening, dust collection should improve;

JWP: COMMENTS: DONE.

3) Consider other means of improving the dust collection at the source of release rather than relying upon the canopy hoods to clean the air;

JWP: COMMENTS: ORDER 4" FLEX DUCT AND INSTALL ABOVE WORK ON BOTH SAWS.

4) In place of brushes and brooms, design attachments for the vacuum line for use in cleaning up area;

JWP: COMMENTS: DONE. NO SWEEPING. USING VACUUM CLEANER FOR ALL CLEANUP IN CUTTING ROOM.

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