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DATE: 1992 Sept 8

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo with Data Report - Asbestos Exposures, Rear Axle Assembly, Sterling Plant



Inter Office

Employee Relations Staff

September 8, 1992

Mr. R. Tepper, Manager
Sterling Plant

cc H. Barker
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Subject: Asbestos Exposures, Rear Axle Assembly, Sterling Plant

ABSTRACT

At the request of the Plant Physician, M. Flores, M.D., Industrial Hygiene measured employee exposures at several locations on rear axle assembly lines in Departments 16 and 17. The sampling was requested to determine whether an employee on restriction should be returned to her prior job after treatment for mouth cancer. Exposures were measured August 6, 1992 by Mr. D. Hands of Industrial Hygiene with assistance from Ms. R. Revyn, an intern in plant Safety. Exposures were less than the permissible exposure limit for asbestos, consistent with prior sampling of this operation in both the Sterling and Van Dyke plants. No recommendations are made.

BACKGROUND

A rear axle assembly line was recently moved from the Van Dyke Plant to Sterling. One of the employees on the line had been placed on restriction by the plant physician at Van Dyke after treatment for mouth cancer. This employee was ready to return to work, and the Sterling Plant physician, M. Flores, M.D., requested air sampling to determine asbestos exposure at her job location. Mr. D. Hands of Industrial Hygiene and Ms. R. Revyn, Sterling Plant Safety intern, conducted exposure monitoring at both the assembly line from Van Dyke (Department 16) and the existing assembly line (Department 17) August 8, 1992.

Asbestos-containing brake shoes are being phased out in many product lines. On the day sampling was conducted, Department 17 ran asbestos-containing brakes until about 9:30 a.m. The supervisor stated that to his knowledge, about 200 more asbestos-containing axles would be assembled. Afterward, the 1993 models on this line would all be asbestos-free. In Department 16, asbestos-containing brakes were assembled after about 10:30 a.m.

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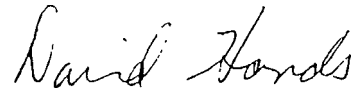
Mr. R. Teppper, Manager
Sterling Plant

- 2 -

September 8, 1992

RESULTS

All results were less than the permissible exposure limit for asbestos. Note that the analytical method does not distinguish between fiber types, so all fibers are counted and considered asbestos. These results are consistent with results of past surveys at rear axle assembly operations. We have no recommendations regarding these results. Please share them with affected employees and supervisors. If you have questions regarding this report, please call me at 594-1611.



David Hands
Industrial Hygienist

attachments
STL0892a

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ATTACHMENT 2 INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AIR SAMPLING DATA SHEET

STERLING PLANT 1823
10.25" REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY 16

RESULTS OF AIR SAMPLES ARRANGED BY AREAS AND PERSON

SAMPLE DATE	SMPL ID	PERSON/SSN or AREA	JOB CLASS/ CODE	LOCATION/ OPERATION	AGENT, PEL/STEL, PEL SOURCE	TYPE OF SAMPLE	MEAS CONC.	% PEL/ %STEL
08/08/1992	STL08 92A8	F. CARDILLO 373-50-3073	ASSEMBLER 0100070	INSTALL ABS SENSOR (33%), INSTALL RIGHT AND LEFT BRAKE ASSEMBLIES (86%). ROTATES WITH TWO OTHER JOBS	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC, OSHA	TWA BASED ON 424 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	<0.0032F/CC	<1.6
08/08/1992	STL08 92A9	FAVITA 376-80-5607	ASSEMBLER 0100070	TIGHTEN HIGH SHEAR NUT WITH CP MACHINE, INSTALL RIGHT AXLE	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC, OSHA	TWA BASED ON 419 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	0.0059F/CC	2.9
08/08/1992	STL08 92A8	R. MINES 365-84-0145	ASSEMBLER 0100070	OPERATE CP MACHINE/INSTALL LEFT AXLE (50%), INSTALL LEFT BRAKE DRUM (50%).	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC, OSHA	TWA BASED ON 418 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	0.014 F/CC	6.9
08/08/1992	STL08 92A7	R. KOYL 373-80-8125	ASSEMBLER 0100070	INSTALL ABS SENSOR (33%), INSTALL RIGHT AND LEFT BRAKE ASSEMBLIES (86%). ROTATES WITH TWO OTHER JOBS	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC, OSHA	TWA BASED ON 422 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	<0.0036F/CC	<1.8
08/08/1992	STL08 92A10	M. MCCONNELL 375-58-8067	ASSEMBLER 0100070	HAND START 8 AXLE BOLTS, RUN DOWN WITH CHICAGO PNEUMATIC TOOL OR IMPACT WRENCH.	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC, OSHA	TWA BASED ON 418 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	<0.0033F/CC	<1.7

TWA=TIME WEIGHTED AVERAGE PPM=PARTS OF CONTAMINANT/MILLION PARTS OF AIR
MPPCF=MILLION PARTICLES/CUBIC FOOT
MG/M3=MILLIGRAMS OF CONTAMINANT/CUBIC METER AIR
PEAK=SHORT TERM SAMPLE USUALLY LESS THAN 30 MINUTES TO DETERMINE PEAK CONC.
F/CC=FIBERS PER CUBIC CENTIMETER OF AIR
PEL=PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMIT C=CEILING LIMIT S=PROHIBIT SKIN CONTACT
STEL=SHORT TERM EXPOSURE LIMIT, USUALLY BASED ON 15 MINUTES OF EXPOSURE
PEL/STEL= IF TWA/PEAK COLUMN IS "TWA" THEN NUMBER IN PEL/STEL COLUMN IS PEL
IF TWA/PEAK COLUMN IS "PEAK" THEN NUMBER IN PEL/STEL COLUMN IS STEL
% PEL=RESULTS AS % OF THE PEL ADJUSTED FOR SHIFT HOURS < 8 HOURS
% STEL=RESULTS AS % OF THE SHORT TERM EXPOSURE LIMIT
N/A=NOT APPLICABLE
* EXPOSURES IN EXCESS OF 50% PEL/STEL # RESPIRATORY PROTECTION WORN
SAMPLER: DAVID HANDS-INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST, INDUSTRIAL HYGIEN
PROJECT: STL0892A

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**ATTACHMENT 1
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AIR SAMPLING DATA SHEET**

**STERLING PLANT 1823
10" REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY 17**

RESULTS OF AIR SAMPLES ARRANGED BY AREAS AND PERSON

SAMPLE DATE	SMPL ID	PERSON/SSN or AREA	JOB CLASS/ CODE	LOCATION/ OPERATION	AGENT, PEL/STEL, PEL SOURCE	TYPE OF SAMPLE	MEAS CONC.	% PEL/ %STEL
08/06/1992	STL08 92A1	K. BROWN 404-58-8358	ASSEMBLER 0100070	BRAKE ASSEMBLY INSTALLATION, LEFT SIDE	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC , OSHA	TWA BASED ON 442 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	0.0062F/CC	3.1
08/08/1992	STL08 92A4	L. DEMENIUK 384-48-8335	UTILITY 0104230	INSTALL VENT PLUG	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC , OSHA	TWA BASED ON 428 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	0.0043F/CC	2.2
08/06/1992	STL08 92A3	M. HAYSLETT 380-70-0255	ASSEMBLER 0100070	HAND START COVER BOLTS, LEFT SIDE	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC , OSHA	TWA BASED ON 227 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	0.015 F/CC	7.7
08/08/1992	STL08 92A2	L. HUMBACH 375-82-5228	ASSEMBLER 0100070	BRAKE ASSEMBLY INSTALLATION, RIGHT SIDE	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC , OSHA	TWA BASED ON 434 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	<0.0031F/CC	<1.6
08/08/1992	STL08 92A5	K. SUTTON 375-44-7040	ASSEMBLER 0100070	INSTALL BRAKE DRUM	ASBESTOS, 0.2 F/CC , OSHA	TWA BASED ON 357 MIN, REPRESENTATIVE	<0.0038F/CC	<1.9

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MG/M3=MILLIGRAMS OF CONTAMINANT/CUBIC METER AIR
PEAK=SHORT TERM SAMPLE USUALLY LESS THAN 30 MINUTES TO DETERMINE PEAK CONC.
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SAMPLER: DAVID HANDS-INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST, INDUSTRIAL HYGIEN
PROJECT: STL0892A

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