



H. K. PORTER COMPANY, INC.

THERMOID DIVISION

DATE January 13, 1970

TO _____

LOCATION _____

FROM Alexander Smith

AT Pittsburgh, Penna.

SUBJECT MEETING - H. K. Porter & Representatives of Naval Ship Engineering Center.

ATTENDANCE:

H. K. Porter Co., Inc.:

Messrs. K. W. Sulser - General Manager - Asbestos Group:

Alexander Smith - General Sales Manager - Asbestos Group:

Frank Williams - Asbestos Specialist:

W. H. Haines - Vice-President - H. K. Porter Co., Inc.

Naval Ship Engineering Center:

Mr. Birnbaum - Head, Coatings & Environmental Control Section:

Mr. Morgenstern - Head, Coatings Unit:

Mr. Murad - Insulation & Acoustics:

Mr. Cherowbrier - Hazardous Materials:

Cmdr. Ryan - Head, Material Development & Applications Office.

PURPOSE:

This meeting was arranged to discuss the uses and applications of Asbestos materials in shipbuilding, with emphasis on the hazardous aspects experienced by their use during installation and overhauling of existing ships and to provide a flow of ideas from both parties concerning the best methods to reduce these hazards, and how to implement these improvements to best serve the Naval Shipbuilding Program.

PRESENTATION - NAVSEC:

Mr. Birnbaum outlined the organizational structure of the group and emphasized their presence at the meeting did not involve any physiological or medical aspects concerning the usage of asbestos, but were concerned with the technical application, however, they would refer any developments presented to them into their Medical Section.

Cmdr. Ryan pointed out that a report was being prepared by his group making recommendations to improve dust or hazardous conditions in Naval Shipbuilding, and that any action having a bearing on improving these conditions would certainly be given every consideration in their recommendations.



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PRESENTATION - H. K. PORTER CO., INC.:

Alexander Smith indicated to the Group the concern by Porter with Asbestos lint and the efforts being made in our plants for our own workers. He pointed out the reductions made in asbestos lint which presently is 50% less than the ^{minimum} established by the State of North Carolina.

Frank Williams presented the initial results of asbestos dust count tests being conducted at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. These tests are still being conducted. It was pointed out initially that Norfolk in their Amosite and Asbestos cloth cutting operation, with the use of water and dampening of material, had considerably reduced the amount of asbestos dust below the T.L.V. (Threshold Limit Value) of 2 MPPCF (million particles per cubic foot). Copies of this report were circulated to the group.

Mr. Williams further pointed out that further tests are being conducted using H. K. Porter Lint Free Portersite (Amosite) and Lint Free Asbestos Cloth which will preclude the necessity for dampening the materials and still provide dust levels well below the established minimum. Samples of lint free Amosite Felt and lint free Asbestos cloth showing the merits of this treatment by Porter were distributed to the group.

It was pointed out during the presentation that present Navy specifications allow for an Amosite Felt containing methods of manufacture conducive to a high amount of lint and dust during the cutting operation.

On previous occasions, Porter has asked that specifications be revised to specify a knitted and lint free type of Amosite Felt.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Following the presentations, points of interest were discussed by the group as follows:

The Navy emphasized the need on our part to develop conclusive tests to measure the reduction in lint and that our competitors would be expected to have the same opportunity to manufacture this material.

The question concerning the use of materials in shipbuilding would involve factors of cost, safety, labor-saving, however, a material with 0 hazards to health would be recommended if all other factors were equal.

The Navy pointed out that their program did not involve any complete elimination of Asbestos, but recommendations for safer working conditions at the various Naval Installations.

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GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Cont'd.)

The Navy emphasized the need to simulate both installation and rip-out tests of Asbestos materials and that Quality Control Assurance Tests on complete shipments would be required rather than plant certification.

Various types of Asbestos materials used in shipbuilding were discussed. Porter emphasized our concern was with products containing the long fiber or higher grades of Asbestos fibers.

A report will be issued on February 1, 1970 concerning the uses of Asbestos. It is expected to recommend not using products containing high dusty asbestos. No decision has been made on asbestos cloth at this time.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based on the presentations and the discussions H. K. Porter Asbestos Group will do the following:

Immediately organize a testing procedure for measuring the Asbestos dust in Amosite Felt and Asbestos Cloth which can be written into Navy specifications. H. K. Porter will contact NAVSEC when these testing procedures are ready for presentation.

NAVSEC will follow up on tests being conducted by Mr. William Barnhart at Norfolk Naval Shipyard to further obtain data concerning the use of lint free asbestos.

H. K. Porter will furnish complete information on all their products by sending sufficient literature to Cmdr. Ryan and his staff.

Mr. Haines will obtain a copy of the February 1, 1970 report when it is released and distribute to Porter group.

AS:ms

Alexander Smith