GRACE
ZONOLITE
CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS DIVISION

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT WRG-1260

03635591

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DATE: February 20, 1975

SUBJECT: Nuisance Dust

FROM: T. P. Feit

cc: J. L. Wright
B. R. Williams

Recently, the Pacific Region had a customer cited by the State of California, Division of Industrial Safety, for "failure to limit or control harmful dusts, produced in the course of employment, in quantities above the threshold limit values".

Specifically, the mixer man had failed to use a mask and allegedly dust levels were determined exceeding minimum threshold limit values. According to the State of California and presumably elsewhere, all dusts are "harmful".

Because such conditions are probably typical of MONOKOTE mixing sites, I refer you to Fireproofing Bulletin #48 (July 24, 1974), enclosed, and again suggest that your customers be made aware of the necessity for using approved respirators, especially at the mixing site.

Tom

Thomas P. Feit

TPF/dz
Enclosure

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FEB 27 1975
AUBURN, WASH.

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FIREPROOFING BULLETIN

02635592

SUBJECT: OSHA--NUISANCE DUST EXPOSURE
BULLETIN #48

DATE: July 24, 1974

The Occupational Safety and Health Standards apply to every "work, place or environment where work is performed" and enjoin every employer to provide each employee with a safe place to work. From time to time, customers raise the question as to whether certain OSHA Standards may be applicable to them in their role as employers as it relates to the fireproofing application process.

Among the various OSHA Standards, one relates to the exposure of workers to nuisance dust and specifies a threshold limited value (TLV) for total nuisance dust and for respirable nuisance dust based on an eight hour time-weighted average. It is recommended, therefore, that as a precaution against an exposure to dust levels which may exceed the present OSHA TLV, approved respirators be used by workers at the mixing site. Past experience suggests that at the spraying location (the nozzleman's breathing zone) there is no significant dust exposure since MONOKOTE is applied wet. Since job conditions vary, there may be special situations in which the nozzleman may be exposed to unacceptable dust levels. Each situation, therefore, needs to be evaluated separately in light of the applicable OSHA Standards.

Fireproofing applicators should be advised that the information provided above is no substitute for the employer's obligation to determine for himself the suitability of the working conditions to which his employees are exposed.

TPF/dz

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W. R. GRACE & CO.
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