

FILE NAME: Asten Hill (AH)

DATE: 2002

DOC#: AH060

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Asten Hill Trial Notebook

May-28-02 04:18pm From:Murray Law Firm

804 884 8248

T-277 P.002/013 P-228

ASTEN HILL TRIAL NOTEBOOK

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT	TRIAL USE
1. 7777 History of Asten Group, Inc. (sf-569)	After the war (WWI), the sale of asbestos dryer felts was pushed energetically and advertised in various magazines.
2. 7777 State of the Union Message given by the executive committee (AHEWIC) (sf-609.2)	During the late 1940s and early 1950s, the company experienced many casualties in its ranks, due to the job hazards. At this time those casualties are on the rise. "...a better position for the future of the Asten Hill employees who work under this hazard is an absolute must."
3. 7777 Asbestosis Incidence Study (sf-818.7)	Most of the companies reporting asbestosis case studies have shown a 5 year minimum exposure is correct, except in 2 cases. It should be agreed that with proper pre-hire physicals and chest x-rays, cases with less than 5 years exposure could have been avoided.
4. 7777 Compensation Claims-Asbestosis (sf-819.5)	Lists asbestosis claims from 1950s to 1970s.
5. 7777 Dryer Canvas for Asten Hill, Brandon Sales, Mt. Vernon Dryer Felt, and Seapa Dryers (sf-570)	St. Francisville uses Asten Hill and Brandon.
6. 7777 Asten Product Application Information- Ventinest (sf-573)	Use long fibre asbestos to weave into a fine yarn. This yarn is combined with cotton yarn and made into Asten Felt.
7. 1950 Letter dated 06/19/50 from Joseph Shillen, MD, Director of Industrial Hygiene to John McCormick, Asten Hill Re: Dust Survey (sf-581)	Dust levels were above the threshold in three areas. (9.9, 10.1, 251.2, 198.4)
8. 1950 Analyzation of Asten Dryer Felts dated September 1950 (sf-582)	Shows the percentage of cotton and asbestos in the different dryer felts that Asten manufactures.
9. 1952 General Asbestos & Rubber of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. by Ralph Smith (sf-818.8)	The number of asbestosis cases increases with increased years of exposure.

May-28-02

04:18pm

From:Murray Law Firm

904 984 6248

T-277 P.003/013 P-223

10. 1952 Report of the Air Hygiene Committee dated 10/09/52 (sf-818.6)	Mentions a suspect relationship between asbestos and cancer. Relates that it is of importance to committee members.
11. 1952 Minutes of the General Meeting of the Asbestos Textile Institute dated 12/11/52 (sf-818.3)	Legal counsel addressed the OPS regulations which were applicable to this industry or to any company that was being injured by the increased cost of imported asbestos fibers.
12. 1953 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee dated 03/11/53 (sf-818.1)	The effects of asbestosis were described by Dr. Smith, medical director for Johns-Manville.
13. 1953 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee dated 06/10/53 (sf-818.2)	The Baranac research on asbestosis shows that long fibers (10 microns or >) are the fibrotic producing agent. Complete pre-employment and periodic annual exams are essential to controlling asbestosis.
14. 1953 Letter dated 08/21/53 from PAT/rs to Dr. Maxwell (sf-819.7)	Letter has a list of all employees that had asbestosis.
15. 1953 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee dated 09/09/53 (sf-818.3)	Discussed the staging of asbestosis. Stated that the asbestotic fibrosis. Question was raised concerning the identification and removal of organic fibers from the samples submitted.
16. 1953 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee dated 12/09/53 (sf-818.4)	A study revealed that 5-11% of those employees working in exposed areas were affected. Recommends that another study be done in order to eliminate dust in an effort to protect employees.

May-28-02 04:20pm From:Murray Law Firm

504 894 5246

T-217 P.004/013 F-223

17. 1954 Asbestos Textile Institute meeting notes dated 03/10/54 (sf-818.9)	Asbestosis can be controlled by adequate ventilation, annual physical exams, x-rays, and sputum analysis. The doctor at the meeting relayed the following quote from a letter he received from the Medical Council of an insurance group: "Great caution should be used in the diagnosis of such occupational diseases as asbestosis for if an employee is unable to work because of this disease he will receive compensation but no medical or drug bills associated with his illness will be paid."
18. 1954 Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee Meeting Minutes dated 06/09/54 (sf-818.3)	New Jersey has not accepted the recommendations of its standard and codes committee in regards to asbestos exposure. There is no reference to a maximum allowable concentration for asbestos in the code.
19. 1954 Purchase manual for Crown Zellerbach dated 10/05/54 (sf-585)	See exhibit
20. 1955 Letter from J.C. Andrews, Atlas Asbestos Company Limited, to P.L. Clark, Astin Hill dated 03/31/55. (sf-588)	Dust study dated 03/28/55 reveals high concentrations in two areas. (6.9 and 6.8)
21. 1955 Minutes of the Asbestos textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee meeting dated 09/07/55 (sf-818.10)	Mr. Sabourin, general counsel for the QAHA, stated that the present major health problems of the industry pertained to the relationship of heart difficulties and cancer to asbestos exposure.
22. 1955 Letter from J.C. Anderson, Atlas Asbestos Company Limited to P.L. Clark, Astin Hill dated 12/22/55 (sf-590)	List the asbestos content of Astin Hill dryer felts. Dust concentrations are below the threshold.
23. 1956 Memo regarding environmental dust survey for Asbestos textile Institute dated 02/29/56 (sf-592)	States that some effects of asbestos are due to the fibers, but there is also some evidence that the fine particles may produce injurious effects.

May-28-02 04:28pm From:Murray Law Firm

504 584 5248

T-280 P.005/013 P-223

24. 1956 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee dated 03/07/56 (sf-395)	Dr. Heuper, of the National Cancer Institute, claims that asbestosis-cancer can occur after exposure of 6 months to 42 years in ages of people from 25 to 65. Definition of "asbestosis" One particle of asbestos with the physical condition surrounding it can be diagnosed as asbestosis.
25. 1956 Letter from Richard Walmer, managing director to Myril Shaw, secretary Asbestos Textile Institute dated 05/01/56 Re: Proposed epidemiological study of lung cancer in asbestos workers for the Asbestos Textile Institute (sf-393)	-Rapidly increasing incidence of lung cancer has become a matter of concern to people in all areas of health and the general public -Dr. Heuper claims there is a definite relationship between asbestosis and lung cancer -It is apparent that considerable amount of information is available with respect to textile workers and others with potential exposure.
26. 1956 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee Meeting dated 06/04/56 (sf-816.18)	A proposed epidemiological study of lung cancer in asbestos workers was recommended to determine if there is a relationship between cancer and asbestosis; and if a relationship exists between lung cancer and considerable exposure to asbestos fibers and dust.
27. 1956 Letter from Dr. Braun, medical director of Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America, to Hugh Jackson, industrial health program manager for Johns Manville dated 12/06/56 (sf-394)	Contains reference to various articles on asbestos. States that asbestos is associated with bronchogenic carcinoma. It also states that it is becoming increasingly more difficult to absolve asbestos as a potential factor in pulmonary cancer.
28. 1957 Survey for Asbestosis conducted by Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association Casualty Insurance Company Safety Engineering Department from 02/57 to 07/57 (sf-819.1)	Several samples are above the threshold value. It is noted that it is not believed that there are any excessive exposure to asbestos dust in this plant under normal conditions.

May-28-02 04:23pm From:Murray Law Firm

504 584 5249

7-280 P.006/013 F-223

29. 1957 Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee dated 03/07/57 (sf-818.12)	The proposed epidemiological study of lung cancer in asbestos workers for the Asbestos Textile Institute was rejected for the following reasons: -QAMA had a similar study and the results would be provided. -Such an investigation would "stir up a hornet's nest and put the whole industry under suspicion" -Members do not believe that there is enough evidence of cancer or asbestosis, or cancer and asbestosis in this industry to warrant this survey
30. 1957 Letter from Holmes, Asbestos Textile Institute, Air Hygiene Committee to Dr. Braun, medical director of Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America, dated 04/26/57 (sf-818.14)	Confirms that two proposals are to be dropped. (epidemiological study of lung cancer in asbestos workers for the Asbestos Textile Institute and the environmental dust survey for the Asbestos Textile Institute)
31. 1957 Letter from Dr. Braun to Hugh Jackson dated 08/23/57 (sf-818.15)	Relates that after completing the literature search, it was concluded that the association between lung cancer and asbestosis is "much more likely to exist in asbestos factories than in mining operations."
32. 1958 Fibre Producers Report by N.W. Hendry dated 02/09/58 (sf-818.17)	"There is no evidence of any risk to human health in exposure to, or use of manufactured products containing asbestos fibres."
33. 1959 Purchases from machine manufacturers for the calendar year of 1959 (sf-606)	St. Francisville bought 42.3% from Asten Hill and 57.7% from Brandon Sales.
34. 1959 Asten Dryer Felt brochure dated 09/59 (sf-377)	See brochure.
35. 1960 Commonwealth of PA. Department of Health, Division of Occupational Health, Report of survey of Asten Hill dated 02/24/60 (sf-819.2)	Only one sample exceeded the threshold limit. No recommendations were made.

May-28-02 04:28pm From:Murray Law Firm

504 884 5248

T-280 P.007/013 F-223

36. 1960 Meeting with the union dated 06/09/60 (sf-609.1)	Management made the statement that "the question of dust or health conditions should not be made part of negotiations year after year. ... they should not be used as a weapon in every negotiation" The employees brought up the fact that the company always brings up competitors wages. They feel that their health is just as important to them as the competitors are to the company.
37. 1962 Purchase records for various years dated 04/01/62 (sf-601)	St. Francisville in 1961 bought 29% of dryer felts from Asten and 80% from Brandon; in 1962: 66.4% from Asten and 33.6% from Brandon; in 1963: 68% from Asten, 26% from Brandon, and 6% from Formex; in 1964: 10.2% from Albany, 57.2% from Asten, 22.5% from Brandon, and 10.2% from Formex; in 1965: 71% from Asten and 28.3% from Brandon; in 1966: 55.8% from Asten, 26.3% from Brandon, and 17.9% from Scapa; in 1967: 63% from Asten, 28% from Brandon, and 17% from Scapa.
38. 1962 Letter from Dr. Lieban, director of Division of Occupational Health, for PA Department of Health, to Mr. McCormack, Plant Engineer for Asten Hill, dated 07/09/62. Attachments- Hygienic Information Guide #7 and Dust Study. (sf-819.4)	-Hygienic Information Guide: Maximum allowed atmospheric concentration (8-hour work period) is 5 mppcf. The primary effect of inhaling asbestos dust is pulmonary fibrosis. -Dust Study: 3 samples are over threshold limit.
39. 1964 Dust study on May 19 and 20, and June 4, 1964. (sf-819.3)	Revealed that dust exposures at the bobbin winding operations were excessive (as high as 29mppcf).
40. 1964 Letter from the PA Department of Health to Asten HIL, Attn: D.R. Holmes, plant manager dated 08/26/64 Re: Dust study conducted on 07/15/64. (sf-819.5)	Reports that controls for dust were needed on 06/04/64 and that the study on 07/15/64 concluded that additional control measures at the bobbin winding operation were needed.
41. 1964 Minutes from the Air Hygiene & Manufacturing Committee dated 10/08/64. (sf-818.16)	At a conference, Dr. Selikoff linked asbestos with cancer. We need to focus on investigating and rebutting this statement.

May-28-02 04:27pm From:Murray Law Firm

504 584 5248

T-280 P.008/013 P-223

42. 1964 Minutes of the general meeting for the Asbestos Textile Institute dated 10/09/64 (sf-518-46) 218, 19	Dr. Cralley, of the U.S. Public Health Service, will be giving the results of his survey to date, at the conference, "Biological Effects of Asbestos" on 10/19-21/64.
43. 1964 Memo from Don to Dietrich dated 11/10/64 Re: Biological Effects of Asbestosis (sf-625)	Research reveals that there is a relationship between asbestosis and cancer. It was also noted that workers who have developed a moderate degree of asbestosis have survived long enough to develop the associated bronchial carcinoma. "The discovery of these facts emphasizes the need to eliminate all unnecessary exposure to asbestos dust in the future." -We should be alert to any claim of asbestosis from anyone other than an employee. -According to the report the general population may be affected by the end use of products containing asbestos. "This is not our responsibility." The article by J.G. Thompson reflects on all manufacturers, distributors, and sellers of asbestos. "In a way, this particular article may take some of the onus off us, as we have been saddled with this problem of asbestosis for many years."
44. 1967 Memo to Knickerbocker from BAW dated 08/15/67 Re: Felt properties (sf-633)	"The asbestos is in there for the specific purpose of making this felt virtually shank proof." "Obviously, there is no chance of any asbestos coming loose or getting into anything because all of the asbestos in this quality is resin-treated."
45. 1967 Memo from K.D. Hay to E.A. Walther dated 12/15/67 Re: Asbestos felts (sf-634)	Reports a sales call where a customer found that the felt contained asbestos and wanted no part of it. -"My point is that on selected mills where there is an aversion to asbestos, we should refer to it as a "45-R-50" leaving out the word "Besmesh"."

May-28-02 04:28pm From:Murray Law Firm

804 884 5248

T-280 P.009/013 F-228

46. 1968 Article titled, "Mortality from Lung Cancer and Other Causes among Workers in an Asbestos Textile Factory" published in the <u>British Journal of Industrial Medicine</u>, in 1968. (sf-635)	Discusses latency and exposure duration.
47. 1968 Minutes of Air Hygiene & Manufacturing Committee, Asbestos Textile Institute dated 18/03/68 (sf-640)	Members stressed that dry weaving of asbestos cloth presents one of the greatest health safety problems in the production of asbestos textiles.
48. 1972 Memo from Liszewski to Aston dated 06/07/72 (sf-673)	New standard for asbestos fibre concentrations effective 07/01/76 could pose serious implications for our operations. "We are not even sure whether our weaving operations are operating within the present standards."
49. 1972 Memo from Lovell to Philadelphia, Salem, Valleyfield, Appleton, Clinton, & Greenville dated 07/11/72 (sf-674)	Recommended standard for asbestos exposure: -No worker exposed to an environment exceeding 2.0mpccf on a count greater than 5 micrometers in length as a time weighted average exposure for an 8-hour work day with no peak concentration exceeding 10.0 fibers/cc greater than 5 micrometers
50. 1972 Memo from Lovell to Philadelphia, Salem, Valleyfield, Appleton, Clinton, & Greenville dated 07/11/72 (sf-676)	Recommend using warning labels for asbestos waste and products. "I recommend the use of the label unless Marketing feels it would have an adverse effect on customers." -Recommend absolutely no blow down of asbestos looms, warpers, winders

May-28-02 04:38pm From:Murray Law Firm

804 884 3248

T-280 P.010/013 F-223

51. 1972 Asbestos standard memo dated 07/17/72 (sf-676.1)	-Monitoring in every location where asbestos fibers are released within 6 months. -If concentrations exceed allowable limits you must provide: adequate ventilation, wet processing or processing in an enclosed area, or personal protective equipment. -Caution signs are required at all approaches to areas where concentrations exceed limits. -Caution labels are required on all asbestos containing products. -Any asbestos waste should be collected and disposed of in sealed impermeable bags or containers. -Records of monitoring should be kept for at least 3 years. -Any employee found to have been exposed to concentrations in excess of limits shall be notified in writing of the exposure as soon as practicable, but not later than 5 days after the finding. -Employers shall provide medical exams, including chest x-ray & PPT and must be within 30 days of hire, annually thereafter, and within 30 days before or after termination. -Records of medical exams shall be retained by employer at least 20 years.
52. 1972 "The Biological Effects of Asbestos" by Leon France dated October 5-6, 1972 (sf-678)	The industry suggests that an increased risk of lung cancer is not detectable when the exposure is low.
53. 1973 Memo from DVA to Paul Manstry dated 01/22/73 (sf-683)	Includes another memo intended to help the sales staff answer questions from paper mills relative to the use of asbestos in our products. Memo states that the "use of our felts and fabrics present no health hazard to any personnel connected with their end use."
54. 1973 Asbestos and Health Information File dated 04/73 (sf-565)	Provides much information about asbestos.

May-28-02 04:28pm From:Murray Law Firm

304 384 3248

T-284 P.011/013 F-223

55. 1973 "Asbestos" found in National Safety News dated 08/73 (sf-566)	Prolonged inhalation of asbestos causes asbestosis, lung cancer, or mesothelioma. The lungs cannot eliminate asbestos. Asbestosis progresses until a generalized diffuse fibrosis occurs, causing severe respiratory disability.
56. 1974 Letter from Schoenborn, State Accident Insurance Fund, to Finn, Asten Hill, dated 03/21/74 (sf-705)	At three looms the air concentration was above limit (22.93, 22, & 6.29). In one loom, with air system on the air concentration decreased by 1/3, but was still above the limit.
57. 1974 Feasibility Study on the Expansion of the Asbestos Yarn Production Facilities of Asten Hill Limited dated 10/29/74	States that "asbestosis has been and will continue to be one of Asten Hill Limited's most serious problems." At present, 18 employees have incapacities that range from 10-50%. Enclosures were abandoned because employees stated that they "would rather die of asbestosis than be worked to death."
58. 1974 Memo from Holmstrom to Turner dated 12/02/74 Re: Safety Inspection (sf-728)	Discusses the proposed asbestos concentration change from 2 to 5 mppcf in July 1976. Reports that only at that time will 2 mppcf be enforced.
59. 1974 Memo from Fisher to Turner dated 12/02/74 Re: Follow-up inspection by OSHA (sf-729)	It was noted that their face masks do not fit the faces of black workers properly; therefore, they are not being protected. -OSHA was surprised that asbestos yarn was not being wet processed. -OSHA commented that there was excessive asbestos dust on the creel and on the floor and were pessimistic that it would meet the minimum requirement.
60. 1974 Memo from Turner to DV Asten dated 12/04/74 (sf-730)	Both looms that were under citation in March still have excessive asbestos dust. Reports that there was excessive asbestos dust on the creel and on the floor and were pessimistic that it would meet the minimum requirement.
61. 1975 Letter from Mereness, executive director for the Asbestos Information Association, to Clark, vice president manufacturing at Asten Hill, dated 11/10/75 (sf-583-1)	Asten Hill joins the Asbestos Information Association.

May-28-02 04:30pm From:Murray Law Firm

504 554 5248

T-284 P.012/013 F-223

62. 1976 Memo from Edgar to Asbestos File dated 03/12/76 (Memo from 03/10/76 attached) (sf-753)	Caborundum Corp.'s Mr. Mason, was notified that the Federal Register indicates that resin treated or chemically treated asbestos would not need to be labeled a dangerous material. Mr. Mason said that their legal department was familiar with this, but that resin treated fabrics when running on the paper machine would eventually break down and free asbestos dust; therefore, it should be labeled. He offered to send copies of the labels to Asten. -In 03/10/76 memo Mason reports that they use labels, but found that most dryer felt manufacturers do not use warning labels.
63. 1977 News and Notes from Asbestos Information Association dated 01/31/77 (sf-765)	Reports that OSHA intends to lower dust concentration from 2 f/cc to 0.5 f/cc.
64. 1978 Interoffice correspondence from Devon - L.A. Krimnick to Salem - J.P. Nicholson and Waltham - W. Turner dated 10/06/78 (sf-785)	Reiterates the importance of providing employees with a clear understanding of our involvement with asbestos and our intent to decrease our consumption. <u>"It is important that all statements to employees be cleared through Devon in this regard before delivery to any employee group or posting of notices etc."</u>
65. 1979 Memo from Nicholson to Asten dated 07/20/79 Re: OSHA Inspection (sf-796)	Reports that citations from August 1978 for asbestos and noise have been settled.
66. 1980 Interoffice correspondence from Searfoss - Devon to Nicholson - Salem dated 07/08/80 Re: Asbestos Inventory (sf-801)	Concerned with disposing of asbestos yarn as quickly as possible.

From: 310 282 0473

06/18/2002 15:22 #314 P.013/013

May-28-02 04:40pm From: Murray Law Firm

504 884 8249

T-284 P.013/013 F-229

67. 1985 Asten Hill's Answer to Interrogatories and Request for Production dated 05/22/85. (sf-808)	-Asbestos yarn was manufactured by Asten from 1957-1977. Dryer felts were manufactured from 1944-1980. -Most asbestos yarn contained approximately 60% raw asbestos fiber by weight. Some yarn contained as much as 90%. Dryer felts contained approximately 20-45% asbestos by weight. -First became aware of asbestos related disease in 1970.
68. 1986 Asten Hill's Answer to Interrogatories dated 09/16/86. (sf-810)	-First became aware of asbestosis in 1950.