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DRY-WALL TAPING SYSTEMS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



505 O'Neill Ave. • Belmont, Co. 94002, U.S.A. • Area Cod
P.O. Box 807 Tw:

August 21, 1974

Mr. A. V. Abnee
The Gypsum Association
1603 Orrington Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201

Dear Mr. Abnee:

During the last GDCI convention, Dave Brackett, in a conversation with our General Manager, Gene Johnson, stressed OSHA's growing concern about sanding joint finishing compounds which contain asbestos fibers.

Later, Gene and I talked this over and came up with the enclosed "first thoughts." We are circulating these among our customers and our own people.

It occurred to us that these might be useful to your membership and their customers. We consider anything that makes gypsum wall-board easier and better to use, a "plus."

Sincerely,

AMES TAPING TOOL SYSTEMS CO.

Deane W. Rockwell
Assistant to the
General Manager

Enclosures

SANDING WITHOUT DUSTING --- FOR OSHA'S SAKE!

There is growing concern about sanding wallboard surfaces which have been finished with joint compounds containing asbestos fibers. Most current compounds, we are told, do contain at least some small percent asbestos. Many manufacturers are trying to formulate asbestos out of their products, but this could take quite a while, and meanwhile the problem is with us.

Here are a few ideas for minimizing the problem at least, and to avoid the dusting which OSHA finds objectionable:

IDEA NO. 1 - Tape and finish with mechanical tools such as the Ames Taping Tool System. Generally the more uniform finished result means less sanding to be done.

IDEA NO. 2 - Use textured finishes wherever possible. Spray texture, skip-troweling can generally be applied over unsanded finishes, virtually eliminating sanding.

IDEA NO. 3 - In flat-finish areas, use vinyl-base joint compound and wet-sand it. (Wet sanding is not recommended on casein base compounds). In place of the conventional sandpaper, mount a piece of medium-pile carpeting on the head of the Ames Universal Sander. Dip it in water periodically and "sand" as usual. It is quite effective, takes no more time, and completely eliminates objectionable dusting.

These are just a few ideas; undoubtedly there are more. If you have a good idea for coping with this problem, let's have it to pass around.