



intracompany memo

to Joint System Plant Managers location
from C. W. Lehnert location Tigard
subject Joint System Program date November 3, 1975

The joint system program has changed so rapidly I thought it might be advisable to bring everyone up-to-date on our latest thinking.

Chicago

We are shipping an Elvace-boric acid stable formula (no Gelvatol) and also an Airflex boric acid stable formula (no Gelvatol) on all orders. As soon as the supply of Elvace is exhausted, Chicago will order Airflex and convert all ready mix to this formula.

The advantages of the Airflex are lower cost, better performance and it is boric acid stable. If Elvace is used, sorbitol has to be added, which makes Elvace formula even more expensive.

The non-asbestos dry products from Chicago will be formulated (sorbitol added) to improve their boric acid stability.

Akron

We are shipping regular and non-asbestos formulas neither of which are boric acid stable from Akron. Very shortly we will furnish Akron with an improved asbestos free formula that is boric acid stable. This formula will call for Airflex and we recommend they order Airflex 510 in their next request for emulsion. We will also be discontinuing the use of Amsco Resin and AMP in the asbestos free ready mix as supplies of these materials are depleted.

Marietta

We have not had the boric acid compatibility problem at Marietta, at least not to our knowledge. We do have pressure from OSHA on asbestos regulations which may induce us to begin furnishing a non-asbestos formula very quickly. We would like this also to be a boric acid stable formula.

Milford

We are not aware of boric acid problems here either, but competition in some markets are furnishing non-asbestos products. Our inclination is to consider Milford after we have had success at other plants, since they are not under great duress due to boric acid compatibility or asbestos problems.

Acme

Acme's ready mix is extremely susceptible to boric acid contamination. We have also had a request from Sales to furnish a non-asbestos ready mix from Acme to meet competition. Bill Gettel is working on a gypsum version of the asbestos free boric acid stable formula and hope to have some plant trials arranged within the next few weeks.

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GYPSUM DIVISION

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All of these contemplated changes will put a great strain on our raw material inventory problems. Be very conservative in inventorying polyvinyl alcohol or asbestos, particularly as we begin furnishing some of the newer products from your plants. DuPont says they can furnish an emulsion similar to Airflex 510, so we will encourage them to do so. The Reichold emulsion used at Acme is boric acid stable, so we have no problem with it.

Extensive testing of these new formulas here look very encouraging so far, having good bonds, exceptional working properties, good freeze-thaw stability, etc. Even so, we want to approach the new formulations with cautious optimism to avoid any unforeseen problems. It will be helpful if the plant personnel will make as many field inquiries and investigations as possible when they begin to furnish the new products.


C. W. L.
(gvp)

CWL/gvp

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