BH 1002431 167

ASBESTOS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Limited by Guarantee)

68 GLOUCESTER PLACE, LONDON W1H 3HL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Member Associations
Executive Committee Members
Medical Advisory Panel Members

AIA/20/1/16/HAS

FROM: Director-General

4 February 1981

Asbestos Cement Workers - Deaths from Asbestos-related Disease

The attached two sheets supply information on the extremely low mortality rate of asbestos workers in the TAC Construction Materials Ltd. company belonging to Turner & Newall.

The details have been supplied by Turner & Newall and it is worth noting that the TAC experience covers a period from 1914 to 1979. The numbers employed since 1946 are estimated at well over 70,000, but this total has been used as it represents a very conservative figure.

In the context of asbestos cement production and handling in that time, there have been 52 claims in respect of asbestos-related disease and there have been 18 deaths. Whilst the 18 deaths must be deplored, the number of diseases related to the number of people employed since 1946 is 0.025% of the total workforce, or perhaps in simpler terms something like one in 4,000.

You will agree that this figure is very different to the figures suggested by some of our critics and they should be used to support the case for the safety of asbestos use.

N J Stack

Sir Neville Stack

Enc. 2 Annexes

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TAC	Chrysotile	Crocidolite	Amosite	Nos. employed since 1946
Trafford Park	1914 to date	? to date	1966 to 1979	
Widnes and Ditton	1916 to date	1966 to 1969	1970 to 1978	
Erith	1928 to date	1966 to 1969	1970 to date	
				Over 70,000
Tamworth	1941 to date	None	Aug/ Nov 1976	
Rhoose	1935 to 1979	None	None	
Dalmuir	1934 to 1970	1966 to 1969	?	
Hindley Green	1956 to 1977	1962 to 1970	1962 to 1977	

Annex B to
Memo. of 4 February 1981
AIA/20/1/16/HAS

Location	Claims	Settled Claims	Deaths from Asbestos Related Diseases	Age Range	Numbers employed since 1946
• Trafford Park	23	13	7	↑	↑
• Widnes	9	6	4	57	Over
• Erith	9	8	5	to	70,000
• Rhoose	3	2	1	73	
• Dalmuir	3	2	0	↓	↓
• Tamworth	2	2	0		
• Hindley Green	2	1	1	53	
Head-Office	1	0	0		
Total	52	35	18	= 0.025% of the total employed	