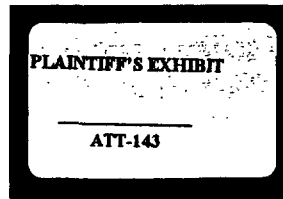


OHWG March 6



*file
OHWG*

AT&T

American Telephone and
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295 North Maple Avenue
Basking Ridge, N. J. 07920
Phone (201) 221-2000

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Meeting Minutes
Asbestos in Bell System Facilities MAR 22 1979

March 8, 1979

CORPORATE MEDICAL
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On Thursday, March 8, 1979 a meeting of the Asbestos Study Group was held at AT&T, Basking Ridge, NJ.

In attendance were:

R. Ingvaldsen	- NY Telephone - Buildings, Technical Service Group
J. O'Brien	- NY Telephone - Buildings, Technical Services Group
V. Cohen	- BTL - Environmental Health & Safety Department
R. Beach	- AT&T - Safety
J. Degen	- AT&T - Safety
R. Rassmann	- AT&T - Building Planning & Design
D. Johnson	- AT&T - Medical
W. Koepke	- AT&T - Real Estate & Property Management
N. DeCapua	- AT&T - Real Estate & Property Management

Review of Letter Requesting Survey

The draft of the System Letter requesting the OTCs to survey their owned and leased buildings to identify facilities which appear to have sprayed-on asbestos and to corroborate with bulk sample tests was reviewed. After considerable discussion it was decided that bulk sample tests not be requested at this time; however, the OTCs may choose to do some sampling on their own for corroboration. The basic reason is the difficulty in obtaining consistent results within a reasonable time frame, and the fact that the objective of the survey is to assess the extent of sprayed-on asbestos usage in Bell System facilities. This could be determined with reasonable accuracy by a comprehensive visual inspection in each OTC. Once the extent of the problem is determined, a statistical model could be developed if it is deemed necessary and, at that time, the required bulk and air sample tests identified.

The OTCs will transmit to AT&T one form for each facility with apparent asbestos. In addition, they will be requested to furnish the total number of leased and owned locations in their company.

The System Letter should inform the OTCs that they should keep an official record of all facilities with and without asbestos, since OSHA will most likely request this information in the future.

LLA 000923

Nick DeCapua and Roger Rassmann will include the above comments into a draft of the System Letter and survey form.

Interim Guidelines

Since the survey information is to be used in designing a statistical model aimed at obtaining formal solutions to asbestos compliance, a comprehensive program will probably not be transmitted to the OTCs until some time in 1980. As a result, it was generally agreed that the OTCs need interim guidance from AT&T for certain obvious situations where employees might be exposed to excessive levels of airborne asbestos.

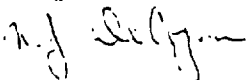
Ross Beach will prepare a draft of a System Letter addressing this issue for review at the next meeting.

Leasing Guidelines

It was decided that the issue of sprayed-on asbestos be addressed in the Bell System Leasing Practices. Bill Koepke indicated that as soon as a definitive policy is developed, he will have it reflected in the Leasing Practices.

Next Meeting

On March 29, 1979 there will be a meeting in room 1339J3 at Basking Ridge to discuss a new draft of the Survey Letter (copy attached) and to further discuss the Letter providing interim guidance to the OTCs.



N. J. DeCapua
Assistant Manager

LLA 000924

March 6
O'Brien

AT&T

American Telephone and
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295 North Maple Avenue
Basking Ridge, N. J. 07920
Phone (201) 221-2000

Meeting Minutes
Asbestos in Bell System Buildings

On Thursday, March 29, 1979 a meeting of the Asbestos Study Group was held at AT&T, Basking Ridge, NJ.

In attendance were:

J. O'Brien - NY Telephone - Buildings, Technical Services Group
V. Cohen - BTL - Environment Health & Safety Department
R. Beach - AT&T - Safety
J. Degen - AT&T - Safety
D. Johnson - AT&T - Medical
V. Hession - AT&T - Real Estate & Property Management
W. Koepke - AT&T - Real Estate & Property Management
N. DeCapua - AT&T - Real Estate & Property Management

Review of Letter Requesting Survey

The draft of the System Letter requesting the OTCs to survey their owned and leased buildings to identify facilities which appear to have asbestos was reviewed. Several relatively minor additions were made.

- . Clarification was needed on, a) exactly what the OTCs are expected to forward to AT&T, i.e., a transmittal sheet with a summary of results and a copy of the survey form for each building with apparent asbestos; and b) what the OTCs should keep and maintain as their official record, i.e., a copy of the survey form for every building in their company (owned and leased).
- . The OTCs will identify an individual as their coordinator for the survey. He will be the contact with the AT&T coordinate (N. DeCapua).

The System Letter will be issued as a Strong Recommendation signed by S. R. Collis (AVP - Support Services) and issued to AVPs of Real Estate Management (or equivalent) with copies to Safety Coordinators and Medical Directors. It is intended that the letter be signed by April 15th for issuance to the OTCs. The OTCs will be required to have the survey completed and forwarded to AT&T by July 1, 1979.

LLA 000925

Interim Guidelines

It was agreed that the interim guidance the OTCs require, while waiting for formal recommendations from AT&T, should come from the Occupational Health Working Group (OHWG). This issue will be discussed at the next OHWG meeting on April 24th. The recommendations of this group will form the basis for a System Letter on interim guidelines.

A discussion ensued concerning the main problem which will have to be resolved on this issue, i.e., the possible use of respirators or disposable masks. The use of respirators requires a full "respiration program" per OSHA regulations. It is uncertain whether this type of extensive program is justifiable for an interim situation. The disposable masks, which are an attractive possibility, are not recognized by OSHA because of their "poor" facial fit. Hopefully, the OHWG will provide the necessary guidance to resolve this question so that interim guidelines can be issued as soon as possible.

Next Meeting

On May 10, 1979 there will be a meeting in room 2144E1 at Basking Ridge.


N. J. DeCapua
Assistant Manager

LLA 000926