1983-09-15

OPERATIONS SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE
1983 September 14

Present: Messrs. J. Quaglia, F. Atzenhofer for T. E. Lowe, J. K. McClain, R. C. Flournoy, R. R. Ripley for R. D. Fitzgibbon, L. J. Fabrygel, P. E. Kelm, R. Hudson, L. Winters, C. L. Webel, J. Damiano, and Ms. I. C. Scheffler

Absent: Messrs. C. Adams, L. F. Schaller

J. Quaglia informed the members that a tentative agenda would be generated each month along with the meeting notice reminder letter. Anyone wishing to add items should contact him in advance.

Agenda I - Safety Statistics

Mr. Quaglia commented that we are still below our objective. As of 83-09-12 it was 1.72 vs. 1.99. No serious injuries occurred in August--the first time since December of 1978. Mr. Quaglia explained the difference between serious injury frequency rates and severity rates.

J. McClain told the circumstances involving Serious Injury #15, Robert L. Cykala, a Precipitation Top Operator, who suffered a fractured left thumb. Corrective actions include the following:

- Emphasize hazards associated with working valves.
- Locate valve handles properly for ease in striking.
- Discontinue use of knockers using sledge hammers instead.

Agenda II - Safety Shower Use

J. Quaglia told the Committee about the need to educate employees of the importance of removing clothing before getting into safety showers. He told of plans to produce a videotape using Alcoans to "tell their story". The Committee agreed with his idea of having some sort of backup clothing/ covering located at safety showers for those who do have to remove their clothing. Ideas ranged from paper coveralls to paper coats to paper sheets. These could be kept in PVC containers at each safety shower. Problems posed include inspection and possible theft.

Agenda III - Red Revolving Lights

The Committee agreed to change red revolving lights to yellow revolving lights on all vehicles except those for emergency. Our Mobile Equipment Repair Shop will take care of this.

Agenda IV - Asbestos Removal

J. Damiano informed the Committee members that it is not acceptable to blow or sweep asbestos. There are two ways to remove asbestos: (1) wet method (mopping or wetting it down) and (2) use of vacuum cleaner with high efficiency exhaust. Such a vacuum will be purchased.

APC 004507

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT AL-1629

83-3575-00000602-#4
Evidence Code

L. Winters told of asbestos removing incident in Building 1 during the week of September 5th. He expressed concern that some people did not heed the barricade warnings that were put up and that the situation could have been handled in a better manner. He did compliment L. F. Wagner on his quick response and helpfulness.

Agenda V - Article, "Our Biggest Accidents"

J. Quaglia briefly discussed article entitled, "Our Biggest Accidents" and how it relates to some of our serious injuries, in particular the last one that occurred. It states that sometimes people get "home-itis", a disease that is bad judgment because of having thoughts of going on to something else. Mr. Quaglia will monitor future accidents to determine if this is a factor in the cause of the accident. Mr. Quaglia pointed out that, according to the article, the National Transportation Safety Board's philosophy is that all accidents can be avoided. Sound familiar?

Agenda VI - Safety Inspections: Scaffolds, Slings, Ladders

J. Quaglia informed members the Safety Rules Committee has evaluated present inspection schedule on scaffolds, slings, and ladders. As of October 1, slings, ladders, and scaffolding will be inspected every two months.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Green Air Hoses for Breathing Air (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   R. Hudson stated that the green hoses for cool hats are not yet in service (still using red hoses). He stated that at one time the green hoses were there ready to be installed, but disappeared.

2. Trolley Regulations on Jib Crane (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   The Chairman of the Crane Committee, R. R. Ripley, reported that he has been in contact with Pittsburgh personnel and has looked at OSHA and MSHA regulations and can find nothing by law that applies to jib cranes. Preventative Maintenance sheet of hoist trolley assembly (mechanical parts of trolley) should be implemented sometime in October.

3. Pallet Lifting Devices (I. C. Scheffler)

   Both fabricated designs will be taken to the calciner overhaul scheduled next week and both will be tried, per I. Scheffler.

4. Unguarded Rotating Couplings (J. Quaglia)

   P. Kelm asked that department heads be made aware of unguarded rotating couplings on portable lube pumps. J. Quaglia will investigate.

5. Fire Alarm System at R-45 Motor Control Center (J. Quaglia)

   P. Kelm related incident of unanswered fire alarm. J. Quaglia will find out the proper sequences that are followed when alarm is activated to correct this problem.

DISCUSSION:

1. P. Kelm expressed concern that our present evacuation procedures are not adequate in comparison to those demonstrated in film entitled, "Vessel Rescue" (Allied Chemicals). J. Quaglia commented that we should improve any situations which we feel are inadequate. Joe asked that Committee members call these situations to the attention of area supervision for evaluation.

2. C. Webel asked the status of the boot situation. I. C. Scheffler gave the history of why we changed boots in the first place and some of the problems encountered during the change. She informed members that within three weeks Storeroom stock will be switched out to newer boot and everyone should be happy.

3. Larry Winters commented that some of our signs do not meet OSHA's requirements. J. Damiano will check on this.

4. L. Fabrygel wondered if other persons/departments had the attitude that "safety goes home at 4:30". J. McClain commented that responsibility in that area rests mainly with supervision.

J. QUAGLIA/cmp

DISTRIBUTION:

Mr. C. L. Adams - R-35M
Mr. F. Atzenhofer, Jr. - R-148
Ms. N. S. Peikert - Bldg. 1
Mr. H. P. Bledsoe - R-139
Mr. H. W. Cooper - Bldg. 1

Mr. H. G. Elrod - R-35Q
Mr. L. J. Fabrygel, Jr. - R-45
Mr. R. D. Fitzgibbon - R-139
Mr. R. C. Flournoy - R-142
Mr. G. A. Geppert - R-141
Mr. D. R. Grundhoefer - Bldg. 1
Mr. R. C. Hiserodt - Bldg. 1
Mr. R. Hudson - R-35
Mr. J. H. Hutchins - R-10
Mr. P. E. Kelm - Bldg. 13B
Mr. R. L. King - R-139
Mr. T. E. Lowe - R-136
Mr. N. V. Lubbers - R-142
Mr. J. C. Mayfield - Bldg. 1
Mr. J. K. McClain - R-139
Mr. J. E. McConnell - R-142
Mr. J. L. Minter - Bldg. 103
Mr. A. R. Ness - R-45X
Mr. J. L. Palmer - R-139
Mr. E. Perez - R-30L
Mr. C. A. Phillips
Mr. J. Quaglia - Bldg. 1
Mr. R. R. Ripley - R-139
Dr. L. F. Schaller - Bldg. 1
Ms. I. C. Scheffler - Bldg. 1
Mr. R. G. Sheppard - Bldg. 1
Mr. H. M. Stellman - R-148
Mr. L. F. Wagner - Bldg. 1
Mr. C. L. Webel - R-84
Mr. L. D. Winters - 13A

I. Scheffler gave the details about Serious Injury #18, George G. Migl, Clarification Area Operator, who had a chemical burn to his right eye.

- Enforcement of personal protective equipment utilization.
- Because there was an error in reloading the R-45 Honeywell TDC 2000 which led to the plugged line and tank overflow, the instruction booklets used by I/E Technicians will be revised.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Trolley Regulations on Jib Crane (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   R. Ripley reported that the inspection frequency has been determined, but the information has not yet been communicated.

2. Pallet Lifting Devices (I. C. Scheffler)

   No update since last meeting.

3. Rescue Procedures at R-30, 25A Tanks (L. F. Schaller)

   No tanks have been opened for scaling since item on agenda. J. Quaglia will assume responsibility for item because of Dr. Schaller's departure.

DISCUSSION:

1. F. Atzenhofer and E. Perez agreed that the feedback system of our work order process needs improvement. Concern for tickling items and feedback to person who initiated item continues to be a problem.

2. Frequency and context of toolbox safety meetings were discussed after complaints were raised about each.

3. L. Winters inquired whether or not all safety belts (including those at the R-136 Toolroom) were subject to inspection. He related an incident which prompted his question; J. Quaglia informed him that all belts were to be inspected. He will check into incident.

4. L. Winters requested a copy of asbestos safety procedures. J. Quaglia will send.

J. QUAGLIA/cmp

1983-12-16

OPERATIONS SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE
1983 December 14

Present: Messrs. J. Quaglia, C. Adams, L. Winters, F. Atzenhofer, T. E. Lowe, L. Fabrygel, N. Lubbers for R. C. Flournoy, P. E. Kelm, L. Schaller, R. R. Ripley for R. D. Fitzgibbon, E. J. Perez for J. K. McClain, and Ms. I. C. Scheffler

Absent: Messrs. C. L. Webel and R. L. Hudson

J. Quaglia informed the Committee that two (2) serious injuries have occurred since the last meeting.

E. J. Perez told the details relating to Serious Injury #19, Hubert C. Teinert, Digestion Area Operator, who was burned after falling from a bicycle into approximately 200° liquor.

- JSA will be addressed to include barricading flooded areas and using extreme caution when working in flooded areas.
- Restrict bicycles from crossing flooded containment areas (recommendation for Safety Rules Book addition).
- Convert from bicycles to tricycles in the Digestion Department.

J. Quaglia updated the Committee on Mr. Teinert's condition:

- 40-50% chance of saving some vision in his right eye.
- 24% of body is third degree burns; 18% is second degree.
- He has some fever and infections; however, condition is stable.

Dr. Schaller commented that a corneal transplant can be done and good results can be expected with Mr. Teinert's right eye.

J. Quaglia also commented that a follow-up session was held with Medical, Security, Safety, and Digestion folks to review policies and procedures in handling emergency situations for future improvements.

T. Lowe added that we need to address proper shutdown procedures and emergency procedures for all areas of the plant. He also commented that the emergency telephone number system needs to be addressed by reeducating employees of the number or possibly changing the number to something simpler to remember. Tommy requested that he be copied on the proposals and JSA revisions and stated he hoped the other departments in the plant would follow any recommendations.

C. Adams suggested that this particular unit be shut down earlier (maybe one hour?) so that craft personnel would not have to rush to finish the job before shift change, and there would be sufficient time to drain the vessels without flooding the building.

To answer P. Kelm's question about flooding in Building ~~30~~ 35, J. Quaglia stated that several things are being done: fixing sump pumps, repiping, unplugging storm sewers, changing overflows and repiping screen boxes.

83-3875-0900002#1 APC 004510

Category Code

1982 August 13

OPERATIONS SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE
1982 August 11

Present: Messrs. R. C. Flournoy, R. D. Fitzgibbon, C. A. Phillips, J. Damiano, J. Ramos for J. K. McClain, L. F. Schaller, C. Martin, K. R. Flessner, P. E. Kelm, P. J. Michalik, A. Arkadie, and Ms. I. C. Scheffler

Absent: Messrs. J. Quaglia, T. E. Lowe, R. Hudson, and F. Atzenhofer

Ms. Scheffler advised the Committee that Messrs. Lowe, Hudson, and Atzenhofer's absence was attributed to their attending a Human Synergistics Showcase in Houston in order to obtain information on safety meeting topics and to see if they offered anything we could apply in our areas of the plant.

R. Fitzgibbon reviewed Serious Injuries #15 and #17, Albert C. Kirchner and Alvin L. Bannert, respectively. Mr. Kirchner was working in R-35 Tank Farm with another employee replacing a blown gasket in a line which they thought had been drained. When the flange broke, a surge of liquor burned Mr. Kitchner's right leg and abdomen.

Mr. Bannert, a Mechanical Maintenance employee, and a co-worker were working on a Morris slurry pump at R-25A replacing an impeller. Employee was wrapping a choker around the impeller to tighten it. In doing so, he struck his gloved outer right hand on the pump bowl incurring a laceration.

Serious Injury #16, Johnny Reese, was discussed by R. Flournoy. Mr. Johnny Reese, a unit supervisor in Electrolyte, was in the process of filling a drum with sulfuric acid at the new cooling tower when a plastic hose popped out of the fill hole and splashed acid on his face, chest, and left arm.

Ms. Scheffler mentioned that the S.I.F.R. as of 1982-08-11 is 2.03 against an objective of 1.92.

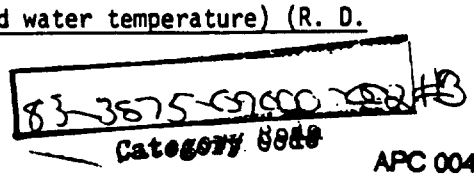
She also mentioned that a seat belt survey was held 1982-08-05 to determine the number of employees who wear restraint devices when travelling to and from work. Four locations were surveyed revealing 18.5% were wearing seat belts. According to the National Safety Council, 10-12% of the populace uses seat belts. In the month of September we will be concentrating on improving our plant's percentage rate through information in safety meetings and mailouts to the home.

Bob Sharkey of the Pittsburgh Safety Staff was at Point Comfort last week to do preliminary work on the corporate audit which is tentatively scheduled for the first week of October.

J. Damiano mentioned that Mr. Jack Fowler of MSHA was back in the plant on a follow-up visit last week to survey the shell wash operator's exposure to noise. He abated the citation since administrative and engineering controls had been applied with a reduction in decibels achieved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. R-146 Showerhouse (poor ventilation and water temperature) (R. D. Fitzgibbon)



83-3875-[illegible] #3
Category [illegible]
APC 004503

FROM W. R. ROGERS

MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SUPT.

TO [redacted]

OPERATIONS MECHANICAL & CIVIL MAINTENANCE MANAGER

cc: RDF
J Gonzalez
1-26-82/ga

1982 July 23

RE: SAFETY SUGGESTIONS

This letter is in response to some of the recent safety suggestions received from the Union/Management Safety Committee.

End Bolts in Scaffold Boards - The end bolt suggestion will certainly help prevent the ends of the boards from splitting, and is a good idea if costs of installing are not prohibitive. The vendor supplying the scaffold boards was contacted to give us some quotes on boards with end bolts, and during this conversation, another solution was developed. On each end of a scaffold board is two cleats which are screwed to the board. The vendor has agreed to use bolts on these cleats which will give a stronger bond. In addition, the vendor agreed to "shoot" an 8 ga. S.S. wire through the end of each board and crimp the ends to have nothing protruding. All of this will be done at no additional charge, and we feel will accomplish the same thing as an end bolt. As of July 21, all new scaffold boards received will have bolted cleats and wire on each end.

Frequency of Inspections on Scaffolds and Ladders - We presently inspect among other things, scaffolds and ladders every month and feel it should remain that way. The control of people turning in scaffolds and ladders for inspection is difficult at best and extending the time period would make it even more difficult. There is some redundant work, but it is not that significant. On rare occasions, scaffolding will need to be inspected in the field. On these occasions, the the toolroom man will go to the field and inspect it.

Use of Out-of-Date Tools - This has been a continuing problem ever since the toolroom was started. Each month a list of scaffolds, ladders, slings, etc., which are checked out is made and sent to the applicable persons. The response is not always adequate. The toolroom man has been instructed that when someone checks out material from the toolroom, the man's supervisor will be written down beside the man's name. The supervisor will be responsible for seeing that the items get returned to the toolroom at the proper time.

W. R. ROGERS

WRR:mm

cc: Mr. J. C. Rush
Mr. J. L. Tew
Mr. G. S. Bingham
Mr. C. G. Harris
Mr. O. F. Matus
Mr. S. E. Crone
Mr. C. Gonzalez
Mr. J. T. DeBault
Mr. J. O. Kveton
Mr. J. S. Kennemer

APC 004504

ALCOA

SP-0163 (REV 11-68)

The showerhouse was surveyed for noise with all fans running resulting in a reading of 79 dBA's. R. D. Fitzgibbon reported that the circulation water pump has been received and that a surge tank is on order. Installation is expected to be complete by mid-September. Heater maintenance will be handled on a PM system that has already been set up.

2. Opening Rail Car Hoppers, R-53 (back strain and pinch points) (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   R. Fitzgibbon stated the concrete pad had been poured and the opener is expected to arrive soon. Once installed, the equipment will be evaluated.

3. Breathing Air Supply (contamination problems) (J. Damiano)

   J. Damiano summarized the recent meeting on this topic reviewing the concerns and controls of the breathing air system. Simulated tests will be done to determine if caustic or liquor can get into the receiver's mask. P. Kelm expressed concern about prior incidents of contamination. The cascade system has since had a prefilter added to it and the PM on the filter system was increased in frequency. R. Fitzgibbon stated the problem should be analyzed from the viewpoint of preventing insults to the system in addition to solving the problem once the insult is there.

4. Noise Problems at R-136A (fans need noise control engineering) (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   Tickle October.

5. Machine Shop (lighting problems) (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   Work in progress; some panels have been installed.

6. Top of R-25 (dust problems) (J. K. McClain)

   Tickle September.

7. Manlifts (warning devices to indicate movement) (J. Quaglia)

   The responses to the survey have been received and are being evaluated to determine which pieces of equipment require modification to conform to a plant standard if one is deemed necessary.

8. Scaffold Boards (quality of inspections) (J. Quaglia)

   The frequency of inspections will remain at once per month. Employees checking items out of the toolroom are now required to have their supervisor's name beside theirs to make it easier to track down equipment that is delinquent on being returned for inspections. Field inspection of scaffolding will be done by the toolroom attendant when necessary.

9. R-45 North Elevator Repair (alarm) (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

   Alarm has been installed. Mr. Flessner expressed concern regarding the fact that the emergency stop and emergency alarm buttons are not clearly labeled. Labels will be installed.

10. R-35 Tank Farm (ventilation) (R. D. Fitzgibbon)

    Tickle September.

UPDATE ON DISCUSSION ITEMS FROM JULY MEETING

1. Stop sign by Bldg. 13B has been changed to a yield sign. Stop sign by R-42 will not be relocated, but pavement will be marked with "STOP" and a stripe will be placed at the intersection. A traffic bulletin was issued on both of these items on 1982-08-05.

2. Cable trays sprayed with flammastic insulation containing asbestos will be identified and marked so that those who work on them in the future will be aware of the hazard.

3. Scaffold boards received as of 1982-07-21 will have bolted cleats and an eight (8) gage S.S. wire through the ends of each board and the ends of the wire will be crimped to prevent protrusions.

DISCUSSION:

1. P. Kelm brought up the issue of monorails being used to support pipe and cited an example on the north side of R-30 running to the 30A tanks. R. D. Fitzgibbon to investigate.

2. C. Martin mentioned the falling hazard created at the top of R-25 as a result of construction in progress. It's been reported several times and numerous persons have investigated but no results have been achieved. Situation will be dealt with.

J. QUAGLIA/cmp