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JOHNS-MANVILLE
RESEARCH & ENGINEERING CENTER

file JH

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November 14, 1969

Mr. D. P. Heitersmann
Assistant Vice President - Engineering
Delta Airlines, Inc.
Atlanta Airport
Atlanta, Georgia 30320

Dear Mr. Heitersmann:

Your letter of November 5, 1969 to our Mr. John Hauenstein has been referred to me for reply.

Before answering the questions in your letter, I will set forth some background information that I think will be helpful.

The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists establishes Threshold Limit Values for hazardous materials. Threshold Limit Values refer to airborne concentrations of substances and represent conditions under which it is believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed, day after day, without adverse effect. They are time-weighted concentrations for an 8 hour day and a 40 hour week. The intended TLV for asbestos fiber dust concentrations is 2 million particles per cubic foot of air in the workplace.

The two asbestos cloths mentioned in your letter are woven from yarns made from asbestos and rayon fibers. The 14325 cloth has brass wire inserted for additional strength. Both cloths have a latex surface coating to reduce dusting.

Now in answer to your specific questions:

- (1) No toxic vapors will be generated during your heat treating operation from these asbestos cloths.

I consider it highly unlikely that any use you make of the cloths could generate sufficient airborne asbestos fiber dust to exceed the Threshold Limit Value.

- (2) It is difficult for me to recommend shop procedures from the information I have. I don't know whether you cut or sew the cloth, and I don't know how it is used in your heat treating operation.

Mr. D. P. Hattermann

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(3) I doubt that your processing or handling of asbestos cloth constitutes a safety hazard. However, there are Johns-Manville products that might be substituted. I suggest you contact our Industrial Insulations Division Sales Office in Atlanta.

Please call me if you have additional questions and we can discuss them on the phone.

Very truly yours,

Edmund M. Penner

Edmund M. Penner, Director
Environmental Control

EMT/ems

cc: H. M. Ball - GHQ
W. P. Raines - GHQ
W. J. Alfried, Jr. - Atlanta
H. P. Templeman - Atlanta
J. A. Hauenstein - Atlanta
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