

CHEMICAL DIVISION



CHRYSLER
CORPORATION

August 16, 1965

Wayne County Department of Health
Eloise, Michigan

Attention: Marvin M. Schuman

Gentlemen:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your memo to S. B. Twiss dated July 2, 1965, relative to our handling asbestos and toluene. This belated acknowledgment does not signify lack of interest in the problem, but is caused in part by vacation schedules and changes in our physical organization.

We are unhappy to hear that your survey showed a toluene concentration higher than your recommended limits going from the boxes into the extruder hoppers. We are reviewing this situation to determine the best method of alleviating the problem. We have at least two choices; increasing the air velocity over the boxes; or using a mechanical method for unloading. It is anticipated that our fact-finding will be completed shortly, and a determination made of the best corrective method.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and look forward to your next visit at which time we hope to have the problem solved.

Yours truly,

CHRYSLER CORPORATION
CHEMICAL DIVISION

E. J. Sydor

E. J. Sydor
Manufacturing Operations
General Manager

AUG 18 1965
CHRYSLER CORPORATION
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EJS:jg

cc: S. B. Twiss
D. L. Eschelbach ✓

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ALBERT E. HEUSTIS, M.D., State Health Commissioner

LANSING, MICHIGAN 48204

TELEPHONE 575-1627

575-1500 HOURS: SAT., SUN., & HOLIDAYS



STATE OF MICHIGAN
GEORGE ROMNEY
Governor

July 2, 1965

Reply to: Wayne County Department of Health
Eloise, Michigan

Chrysler Corporation
Chrysler Chemical Division
5437 W. Jefferson
Trenton, Michigan

Attention: S. B. Twiss, Ph.D., President

Gentlemen:

On May 19, 1965, we conducted a study of the various operations handling asbestos and toluene to determine whether your employees were being exposed to concentrations above our limits.

Air samples were collected in the breathing zone of the workers loading raw asbestos into the mixers and after various machining operations. In general the dust found in the samples was below the established limit. One of the samples collected at No. 3 Saw was slightly above the limit indicating that the ventilation and hooding should be checked to see if it is operating at maximum efficiency.

Solvent samples were collected in the breathing zone of the workers during the emptying of the mixer and the loading of the portable boxes, the shoveling of the mix into the extrusion press and stacking the extruded linings on the drying racks. The air samples collected indicated high concentrations during the emptying of the mixer and the shoveling of the mixed material from the portable box into the extruder. The concentration in the mix room was of short duration and did not appear significant compared to the time of exposure and the background concentration of 10 to 20 parts per million. However the shoveling of material occurs over a longer period of time and is a problem. The average concentration during the shoveling operation is 250 parts per million with the peak concentration exceeding this figure. The ventilation on the box was checked and found to be approximately 700 cubic feet of air per minute, very low according to our standards for good ventilation.

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Chrysler Chemical Division
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Some type of corrective measures should be initiated at the shovelling of brake lining material into the extruder hopper--one, either change the method of loading the extruder to reduce the employee exposure or two, increase the exhaust ventilation to 1750 cubic feet of air per minute per box.

We are enclosing the data collected during our study and if there are any questions before our next visit please feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH



Marvin M. Schuman
District Engineer

MMS/ja

Enclosure

cc: Donald Eschelbach, Industrial Hygienists