W.T. HIBE

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
JM-2177

To: F. [illegible], Jr., 5 West

From: Paul Rotin, M. D., 4 North

Copies: See end of memo

Subject: MONTHLY REPORT --OCTOBER
HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Services

1. A 13-member task force, representing Asbestos Fiber Division, Legal Department, Engineering, Public Affairs/Corporate Relations, and HS&E, was established to review OSHA's proposed amendments to the asbestos standard and to gather the necessary data to prepare J-M's comments and testimony. As a result of an initial meeting on October 7 several subcommittees have been formed and specific assignments made. Issues raised by the proposal were outlined, and a list of actions to be taken, statements to be reviewed, approaches for consideration in our comments, and the priority of issues as judged by the task force was compiled.

In addition to telephone contact with various Washington offices, meetings were scheduled with several members of OSHA's Office of Standards to review the proposal and to learn the status of OSHA's activities on the proposal. Meetings were also held with the Asbestos Information Association (AIA) and the Asbestos/Cement Pipe Producers Association (A/CPPA) to discuss J-M's activities and coordinate industry's response to the proposal.

2. The first draft of J-M's comments on the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposal to regulate PVC pipe was reviewed with representatives of both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the FDA. The EPA presently intends to submit the PVC pipe migration data obtained by its Cincinnati Water Supply Research Laboratory along with the tentative conclusion that no health hazard is associated with the use of PVC pipe for potable water distribution. The EPA also intends to challenge FDA's assertion of jurisdiction over potable water pipe.

Three more samples of tap water taken by the EPA as part of its in-field study of vinyl chloride in potable water were received, two from Texas communities and one from Oregon. Vinyl chloride (1.4 parts per billion) was detected in one of the Texas samples. Thus far EPA has taken source and tap water samples in five communities and has obtained essentially the same results as J-M's Research Center.

3. In the educational area, a number of projects are in the final stages of production; these include the film working with Asbestos and the slide program on asbestos for in-plant use. The special report on health aspects of glass microfibers has been distributed to sales representatives; pocket guides on several other areas of health concern are in preparation--six are planned and two of these are in draft stage at this time. A new slide program for in-plant use which explains the role of industrial hygienists has been developed and is being reviewed and revised.

4. The HS&E Library was accepted for membership in the Special Libraries Association, and an application for membership has been submitted to the Medical Library Association. The value of the HS&E Library as a current information resource was clearly evident in gathering copies of the medical/scientific papers cited by OSHA in support of the asbestos standard amendments, since many of them were already on file in the library and the rest quickly obtained through other library contacts, allowing for very prompt distribution of the material to the Asbestos Task Force.

5. Thirty-one written and twelve verbal external and internal inquiries on the toxicology and safe handling of J-M products were answered during October.

Environmental Safety and Quality

1. A bulletin outlining corporate policies on the use of respirators was issued to all division and plant management personnel. A revised list of corporate-approved respirators for use in all J-M locations was also distributed.

2. Injury statistics were compiled for forty-eight U.S. plants for July 1974 through June 1975. In addition, injury statistics from plants for calendar years 1972, 1973, and 1974 were assembled for comparison purposes in reviewing accident prevention programs.

3. The Industrial Hygiene section has been working with Research and Development in reexamining and revising sampling-analytical techniques for identifying and qualifying suboptical fibers.

4. Surprise environmental inspections were conducted at Manville, Penbryn, North Brunswick, Edison, Manasquan, and Zeston. A report on this program will be presented at the November Division Management Meeting.

5. A detailed analysis was made of existing data on ambient air fiber counts in the vicinity of J-M waste disposal sites. Apparent discrepancies in the reported results have been reviewed with Research and Development technical specialists.

6. The semi-annual report on Workers' Compensation costs at self-insured plants, January 1975 through June 1975, was completed.

Medical Programs and Information Systems

1. Dr. Hans Weill, Medical Consultant to the AIA, met with HS&E staff to review our approach to the proposed amendment of the asbestos standard. It was agreed that J-M would sponsor a medical conference sometime in January to analyze the medical-scientific references cited by OSHA. Copies of these references and letters outlining the proposed conference have been sent to several investigators renowned for their work in the pneumoconioses and occupational carcinogenesis. In addition, a statistical review of all the cited references was begun, and arrangements were made for Dr. Hilton Lewinsohn, Turner Brothers, to visit J-M in November in order to review his studies of Turner Brothers' employees with HS&E.

2. Early in October the Thermal Insulation Manufacturers Association (TIMA), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) jointly sponsored a workshop on the development of draft protocols for testing man-made mineral fibers in animals. Much of the preparation for this workshop was undertaken by HS&E, including the submission of a proposal to the government for funding of the meeting. The basis for the workshop was the recognition that occupational and user exposure to fibrous glass has increased steadily since World War II, and findings from recent studies have documented the need for additional research to determine whether exposure under any circumstances poses a hazard. The working conference brought together scientists from industry, academia, and government to develop specific research priorities and protocols in the disciplines of experimental toxicology and carcinogenesis and to determine the scope of the studies needed. In fulfillment of our contract with the government we are preparing a report of the meeting, including a completed protocol ready for scientific implementation.

3. As the Northeast region has been without a physician since the death of Dr. Milton Rosenblatt early this year, arrangements have been made with Dr. Samuel Elster, a New York City Internist, to serve as the medical resource for J-M employees in this area. Dr. Elster will not only undertake the Executive Physical Examination Program but will also perform preemployment and periodic examinations. In addition he will do special examinations as needed in cases of health litigation and Workers' Compensation. At the end of October Dr. Elster visited Denver in order to meet with HS&E staff, including Dr. Alan Bortz at the Littleton Clinic, to discuss

our program and needs.

4. Members of Dr. Alan Gortz staff at Littleton Clinic, of the HS&E program, and Helen Young, Denver headquarters' nurse, toured Research and Development in order to see firsthand the working environment and to understand the programs undertaken at R&D which may necessitate special types of physical examinations for R&D employees. This visit is an outgrowth of the philosophy we are using in revising the physical examination program for J-M employees; that is, to build our examinations around the risks associated with the individual [illegible], sex, occupation, and so on, rather than relating the examination solely to job level.

Copies: W. [illegible] Alpe
[illegible] Burke
J. A. Consigli
E. DeCoursey
A. B. Marchant
J. F. Matousek
G. W. O'Dair
F. L. Page
F. J. Solon
H. J. White