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John Passeri - ExO; Ken Singleton - Bellwood Extrusion

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Substitutes for Asbestos Containing Materials

The recent suit won against Johns Manville by a shipbuilder employee's family has caused some drastic regulations to be issued relative to the continued use of asbestos containing materials.

Both John and Ken have the problem of determining if a proposed substitute is safe and performs well enough to adopt as a substitute for asbestos containing items essential in plant operations.

As I understand John's assignment, he has to find and approve substitute materials for use within the Mill Products plants. I suggested he write MRD's general director for assistance in a routine screening of substitutes. I further suggested that RMC should be adamant in insisting that vendors furnish all safety documentation relative to their products.* A performance screening is relatively easy; a safety appraisal will not be easy or certain. I also mentioned that asbestos fiber hazard may be its physical form, so that any similar fiber may be just as dangerous, be it wood, glass, rock or kaolin.

In the meanwhile, Ken has some samples that he is forwarding to me, since there is no practical way for his plant to evaluate them.



John W. Carson

JWC/mjs

*Note the attached OSHA "Material Safety Data Sheet," executed by a vendor.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Form Approved
OMB No. 44-R1387

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Required under USDL Safety and Health Regulations for Ship Repairing,
Shipbuilding, and Shipbreaking (29 CFR 1915, 1916, 1917)

SECTION I

MANUFACTURER'S NAME REX ROTO CORPORATION		EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NO. 313-624-1538
ADDRESS (Number, Street, City, State, and ZIP Code) 1109 Decker Rd., Walled Lake, Michigan 48088		
CHEMICAL NAME AND SYNONYMS Articles made of Alumina Silicate Fibers		TRADE NAME AND SYNONYMS "Pyrolite" "Pyroflex"
CHEMICAL FAMILY Metal Oxides	FORMULA Approx. 50% Al_2O_3 50%, SiO_2	

SECTION II - HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

PAINTS, PRESERVATIVES, & SOLVENTS	%	TLV (Units)	ALLOYS AND METALLIC COATINGS	%	TLV (Units)
PIGMENTS			BASE METAL		
CATALYST			ALLOYS		
VEHICLE			METALLIC COATINGS		
SOLVENTS			FILLER METAL PLUS COATING OR CORE FLUX		
ADDITIVES			OTHERS		
OTHERS					
HAZARDOUS MIXTURES OF OTHER LIQUIDS, SOLIDS, OR GASES				%	TLV (Units)
NA					

SECTION III - PHYSICAL DATA

BOILING POINT (°F.)	NA	SPECIFIC GRAVITY ($H_2O=1$) Absolute	2.53
VAPOR PRESSURE (mm Hg.)	NA	PERCENT VOLATILE BY VOLUME (%)	NIL
VAPOR DENSITY (AIR=1)	NA	EVAPORATION RATE (_____ =1)	NA
SOLUBILITY IN WATER	NIL		
APPEARANCE AND ODOR Fine White Fibers - No Odor			

SECTION IV - FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA

FLASH POINT (Method used)	None	FLAMMABLE LIMITS	none	Let	Uet
EXTINGUISHING MEDIA	NA				
SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES	NA				
UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS					
NA					

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SECTION V - HEALTH HAZARD DATA

THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE	30 mp.p.p.c.f. (Nuisance Particulate)
EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE	Irritation to skin and Mucous Membrane (Mechanical in Nature)
EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES	Remove from Area. Wash Exposed skin with warm water & mild soap. Rinse eyes with copious quantities of water

SECTION VI - REACTIVITY DATA

STABILITY	UNSTABLE		CONDITIONS TO AVOID	avoid breathing dust
	STABLE	X		none
INCOMPATIBILITY (Materials to avoid) none				
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCT none				
HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION	MAY OCCUR		CONDITIONS TO AVOID	
	WILL NOT OCCUR	X		none

SECTION VII - SPILL OR LEAK PROCEDURE

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN CASE MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED	Routine Clean Up
WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD	Routine

SECTION VIII - SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (Specify type)			US Bureau of Mines Respirator for Mineral Dust
VENTILATION	LOCAL EXHAUST	SPECIAL	
	To Maintain ACGIH TLV		
	MECHANICAL (General)	OTHER	
PROTECTIVE GLOVES	Desireable	EYE PROTECTION	Desireable
OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT None Necessary			

SECTION IX - SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING AND STORING	Maintain Airborn dust level below TLV for Nuisance Dust.
OTHER PRECAUTIONS	