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CONFIDENTIAL

L. B. Crowell

Recommended Practices

May 5, 1969
F. H. Zimmerman

cc: L. J. Killian
A. H. Fay
J. G. Stapler
H. A. Berg



67

Attached is a copy of the proposed Recommended Practices for Fabricating Handling and Applying Asbestos-Cement Products in the Building and Construction Industries prepared by the sub-committee of the Health and Safety Council of the Asbestos-Cement Products Association. The sub-committee met April 23 in Manville, W. J. and proceeded to work on the proposed Johns-Manville original booklet for the Safe Handling of Asbestos Cement Products in the Building and Construction Industries. After a full day of discussion and bargaining, the contents of the attached booklet were arrived at. It is my personal opinion that we have substantially reduced the scare problem of the original booklet and this present one is basically the same as the writer's revision of the first book which was reviewed by all recipients of this letter.

I would suggest that the Production and Sales Departments give it close scrutiny and advise Al Fay of their thinking. It is my understanding that the booklet will be up for approval at the meeting of the Asbestos Cement Products Association Tuesday, May 20, in New York. From what I can gather, the booklet will have the approval of the Cement Asbestos Products Company, Certain-Teed Products Company, Flintkote Company and Johns-Manville Corporation. If there are any questions in regard to any item in the book or how the decision was reached for wording, I would be pleased to advise.

FHZ:rs
Attach.

F. H. Zimmerman
F. H. Zimmerman
Director of Safety

KOPY KORNER DIVISION
Kopies, Inc.
P.O. BOX 11887
CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28220

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**RECOMMENDED
PRACTICES**

**FOR FABRICATING
HANDLING AND
APPLYING
ASBESTOS-CEMENT
PRODUCTS IN
THE BUILDING
AND CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRIES**

Prepared by

**HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL
OF THE
ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION**

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INTRODUCTION	3
HOUSEKEEPING	4
SHIPPING, HANDLING AND STORAGE	5
FABRICATION AND APPLICATION	6
PIRATORY EQUIPMENT	7

Three major points to keep in mind in the fabricating handling and applying of asbestos-cement products.

..... Keep dust to a minimum.

..... Wear U. S. Bureau of Mines approved respirators when exposed to dusts above allowable limits.

..... Maintain good housekeeping at all times.

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INTRODUCTION

The discovery and production of hundreds of natural and synthetic materials including asbestos-cement products has in some instances prompted the need for special protective equipment and practices and should be employed by all in the industry.

Manufacturers of asbestos-cement products have for years been taking protective measures to eliminate exposures to the inhalation of dust to its workers.

The fabricating, handling and applying of asbestos-cement products is a very diverse and ranges from the installation of a single piece to extensive operations involving cutting and machining by mechanical equipment. While care should always be exercised, special precautions are necessary when dusts in excess of allowable limits are generated as the result of sawing, drilling or other similar operations. Respirators should be worn.

The following practices are recommended for fabricating, handling and applying asbestos-cement products in building and construction industries. Contractors and applicators are urged to study these recommended practices carefully and to see that they are observed by all workers. It is in the best interest of both employer and employee to see that these recommended practices are strictly observed.



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HOUSEKEEPING

An organized housekeeping program should be maintained in all areas and on all operations at all times.

A major source of dust is from loose materials, scrap and debris distributed throughout the job area and disintegrated by trampling on, running over, etc. Much of it can be eliminated by exercising simple good housekeeping practices.

Specific standards and practices designed for providing safe, clean and orderly working conditions should be defined.

Efficient supervisory control, planning of systematic cleaning, plus day to day follow-up are the basic requirements for environmental control and injury prevention.



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SHIPPING, HANDLING AND STORAGE

Under normal conditions, unit load handling and storage of asbestos-cement products present no environmental problems.

When handling individual pieces of flat and corrugated asbestos-cement sheets, care should be taken when placing one sheet on top of the other to avoid creating dust and breakage.

If breakage of asbestos-cement products occurs, broken pieces of material should be cleaned up and disposed of to avoid disintegration by trampling on, running over, etc.

Handling and storage of bags containing asbestos fiber, cements, etc., present no problems, providing bags are unopened and not broken. Open or broken bags should be repacked, resealed or discarded to prevent dust distribution. Spillage should be cleaned up immediately.

FABRICATION AND APPLICATION

When moving asbestos-cement products to and from the fabrication site, individual pieces of materials should be handled with care to avoid breakage and dust.

Fabrication of asbestos-cement products involving cutting, drilling, sawing, etc., should be done in a manner that will minimize dust. The use of proper methods, tools and equipment is essential.

When cutting, drilling, sawing, etc. on a repeated basis with power equipment, mechanical dust collecting systems adequately designed to remove dust from the source should be used.

Fabrication of asbestos-cement products in confined spaces require adequate mechanical dust collecting systems designed to collect dust at the source. Where these systems are impracticable, approved respirators should be worn.

Provide waste containers at all fabrication and application areas. Dispose of unusable material. Keep floors and surfaces clean. Vacuum cleaning equipment is recommended to remove dust and small particles. If vacuum equipment is impracticable, wet down waste material before sweeping and shoveling. Respirators should be worn during clean-up operations.

RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT

ly U. S. Bureau of Mines approved respiratory equipment is recommended care. The efficiency and effectiveness of this equipment is dependent upon proper care, cleaning and maintenance. A systematic procedure should be established to insure that this is done.

Of approved respiratory equipment can be obtained from:

American Industrial Hygiene
Association
14125 Prevost
Detroit, Michigan 48227

U. S. Department of the
Interior
Bureau of Mines
Nineteenth and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

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