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B. C. Haworth - Industrial Chemicals
W. H. Darnell - Industrial Chemicals
C. W. Maynard - Organic Chemicals
R. L. McCarthy - Organic Chemicals
D. W. Woodward - Photo Products
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J. Mitchell, Jr. - Plastics
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COMPANY-WIDE CONFERENCE ON HEALTH EFFECTS
OF DUST FROM THERMAL INSULATING MATERIALS

A Company-wide conference to discuss the health effects of inhalation of dust from thermal insulating materials, including asbestos-containing materials and the means of measuring and controlling the hazards will be held in the Wilmington area on May 29 and 30, 1974. This letter is an invitation to you to attend the Conference and to arrange for attendance by persons in your department who have a need to know about these matters.

The Training Division of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, which is a part of the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, will provide the major part of the technical presentations at this Conference. They have agreed to do this at our invitation and as a part of their mission of extending knowledge and training in the field of occupational safety and health at all levels.

Conferences have previously been held in Du Pont on the safe use of asbestos insulating materials. These were held in May of 1970 and in June of 1972. Both of the earlier conferences were limited in scope to discussions of asbestos-containing materials and both were held prior to the enactment of the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the permanent standards on asbestos promulgated by the U. S. Department of Labor under this Act.

There are several reasons for arranging a conference at this time. The new laws and regulations have imposed a burden on each plant in obtaining assurance of compliance. They have also resulted in a Du Pont policy of purchasing thermal insulating materials which do not contain asbestos. All of the new materials are complex mixtures of substances which may be unfamiliar to plant personnel engaged in the control of dust and other nuisances and health hazards. In the time since the earlier conferences, many plants have established procedures for controlling dust and for measuring the effectiveness of control. We have evidence from many sources that there is a desire to get together to discuss common problems that have arisen. The Federal Standards for protection of health of employees in work places are constantly evolving. There is a need to know of current developments and of prospective standards. We feel that all of these reasons for holding a conference make it worthwhile at this time.

Attendance at the conference will be limited to 60 persons. because of the desire of the NIOSH training group to present the subject material in as effective and intimate a manner as possible.

In the near future, a program will be distributed among you all. In the meantime, we ask that you notify Frank Fuller of Engineering Service Division, Louviers Building, of the names of persons from your department who will be expected to attend. Please send with the names a Charge Code to cover expenses of holding the conference. It is estimated that the cost per capita will be below $200.

James F. Morgan

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JFM/edg