FILE NAME: Rogers Corporation (ROG)

DATE: 1980 ROG052

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Environmental Engineering Report - Additional Asbestos Monitoring

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING REPORT

Confidential

FILE NUMBER:	MMD-80-2	REPORT DATE:	3/25/80
AFFECTED GROUP:	MMD, Manchester	SURVEY DATE:	3/14/80
SUBJECT:	Additional Asbestos Monitoring		
ACTION:	AJDontje		
INFO:	WAH MKupsaw CGM LCHaack RJMikulak LPMacVane BAbbott		
REFER:	MMD-80-1, dated 3/7/80		

BACKGROUND: Asbestos monitoring data presented in Report #MMD-80-1 (3/7/80) revealed three work stations in excess of federal asbestos regulations. These operations were: the GLP Premix Blender, the Beater loading and the Kneader unloading operations.

SUMMARY: Latest monitoring data indicate problem in Beater Room has been corrected. Routine exhaust system performance checks and maintenance should continue.

Employee exposures on the GLP Premix Blender are still in violation of the OSHA 8 hour TWA for asbestos. Problem may be excess Wollastonite which must be counted as asbestos. Handling procedures for Wollastonite should be reviewed and corrected if possible. No action taken on Kneader operation.

Monitored by: CJPorter Date: 3/14/80

Analyzed by: CJPorter Date: 3/18/80

Env. Eng. Mgr. Appr.: Robert F. Lee Date: 3/24/80

PROCEDURE

NIOSH procedure #239 for determining asbestos in air. See Report MMD-80-1 (3/7/80) for details.

RESULTS

Table #1 - Asbestos Monitoring Data
Total Fiber Concentrations 3:1 Aspect Ration, > 5μ Length

Sample #	Area	Sample Time	Grade	Sample Type	Fibers/cc
M-80-35	Beaters	15 m	435	Personal Walt Deptula	1.49
M-80-36	Beaters	15 m	435	Personal Walt Deptula	1.20
M-80-37	GLP-Premix Blender	56 m	660	Personal Tom Bombetto	3.43
M-80-38	GLP-Premix Blender	125 m	660	Personal Rich Dusto	3.05

Current OSHA Asbestos Regulations
8 hr. TWA 2.0 f/cc
15 min. Peak 10.0 f/cc

DISCUSSION

Beater Operation

Ambient fiber concentrations during the loading of the Beaters has been substantially reduced. Concentrations are well below the current OSHA 15 min. asbestos standard.

Exhaust systems in this and all other areas should be routinely checked to insure proper operation.

No additional action appears to be needed in this area. Monitoring will be conducted monthly for the next few months in order to insure compliance.

GLP Blender

At the request of Les Haack additional monitoring was conducted during a production run of RX660 furnish #6006A. As shown in Table 1, this area is again in violation of the OSHA 8 hour TWA asbestos standard.

We have examined all the samples taken during this operation and it appears the problem is excess Wollastonite and not asbestos. Wollastonite is a material which meets the NIOSH criterion for asbestos (3:1 aspect ratio, $> 5\mu$ length) even though it is not asbestos. In addition, OSHA does not have a specific regulation for Wollastonite except as a nuisance dust. However, the NIOSH asbestos procedure requires any material which meets the criterion to be counted as asbestos.

Comparing the ambient air samples taken during the Blender operation with samples of Wollastonite alone and asbestos alone indicates the majority of the fiber material is most likely Wollastonite.

Present exhaust systems should perform equally well on Wollastonite as with asbestos. Therefore, we suggest that Wollastonite handling and loading procedures be examined and modified in order to minimize needless dust. If this is successfully done, "asbestos" exposures on this operation should be reduced to well below OSHA limits.

Additional monitoring can be scheduled in order to test this hypothesis.

Kneader Operation

We have not been notified on any action taken in this area.

/dcc