

PPG
INDUSTRIES

PPG INDUSTRIES, INC./ONE GATEWAY CENTER/PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15222/AREA 412/434-3846

August 19, 1971

LEE B. GRANT, M.D.
Medical Director

Mr. C. E. Van Horne, Manager
Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
Box 3057
Tyler, Texas 75702

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NOT COME FROM PPG FILES

Subject: Medical Staff Visit Report - Tyler Plant
August 16-18, 1971

At the request of Mr. Holman, the undersigned made the subject visit, the primary purposes of which were to (1) provide health education to the plant employees as set forth in the "Application of Pittsburgh Corning Corporation for a Variance from Occupational Safety and Health Standards" sent to the Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor, (2) to review the progress of the expanded periodic medical examination program for Tyler Plant employees being performed at the East Texas Chest Hospital under the direction of Dr. George A. Hurst, the Hospital Director. A secondary purpose was to visit with Dr. R. Bailes, the Medical Director of Region #7 of the State Health Department and his staff. An unanticipated purpose was to meet with Mr. H. F. Adrian, Chief-Industrial Hygiene Program, Division of Occupational Health and Radiation Control, Texas State Department of Health, who had been asked to make a compliance inspection under O.S.H.A. by Dr. Johnson of N.I.O.S.H., who had called the undersigned on July 13, 1971, concerning the Tyler Plant. The following is a review of the activities of the undersigned during the subject visit:

1. Health Education

Attachment No. 1 is the meeting schedule of the undersigned with the plant employees. Attachment No. 2 is the subject matter presented. Mr. Adrian and Mr. Richard Leard, the latter who is an engineer on Dr. Bailes' staff, were invited to attend these meetings with the employees. They attended two and were complimentary about the quality of the presentations.

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2. Expanded Periodic Medical Examination Program

Attachment No. 3 is the examination schedule posted on the Employees' Bulletin Board on August 5, 1971. In Dr. Hurst's absence, the undersigned discussed the progress of the program with Dr. C. H. Roberts, Director of the Pulmonary Function Laboratory at the East Texas Chest Hospital within 10 days following the last examinations scheduled for August 23, 1971. Dr. Roberts anticipates a report on the program results will be

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completed. A copy of this report will be sent to the undersigned. Possibly a meeting between Dr. Hurst and the undersigned will be arranged to discuss the program results and any follow-on. The Protocol originally proposed by Dr. Hurst in 1967 was being used. Mr. Adrian requested a copy of this report, which it was agreed would be sent to him.

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3. Visit With Dr. Bailes

The undersigned was invited to meet with Dr. Bailes by Mr. Martin Wucash, Acting Director, Division of Occupational Health and Radiation Control, Texas State Department of Health. Mr. Wucash is a professional associate of the undersigned of long-standing. Dr. Bailes reviewed the activities of the regional concept of the State Health Department. The undersigned reviewed the asbestos story of Pittsburgh Corning and the Tyler Plant. Mr. Leard and Mr. Adrian were present at the meeting. They requested and were given a copy of the Variance Request and the undersigned's letter to Mr. Holman dated July 13, 1971, Subject: Telephone Call from Dr. Johnson, Bureau of Occupational Safety and Health re Tyler Plant. Dr. Fratis Duff, the Medical Director of the Texas State Health Department, is also a professional associate of long-standing of the undersigned. He is Dr. Bailes' superior.

4. Mr. H. F. Adrian - O.S.H.A. Compliance Inspection

The morning of August 17, 1971, while the undersigned was visiting with Dr. Bailes and Roberts at the Hospital, Mr. Adrian showed up unannounced at the Tyler Plant. He was invited to sit in on the meeting with Dr. Bailes and the meetings of the undersigned with the Tyler employees. He was taken to lunch and also on a tour of the plant accompanied by the Plant Manager, Mr. Leard, and the undersigned. The visit had been initiated by Dr. Johnson of N.I.O.S.H. to review progress of the plant in controlling the high asbestos dust exposures to the employees noted on the March, 1967, Environmental Survey performed by Public Health Service. Mr. Adrian will report on this visit to Dr. Johnson. It is not known whether there will be a follow-on visit either by Adrian or Johnson. Adrian or Johnson apparently were not aware of the Variance Request. No citation under O.S.H.A. is anticipated in view of the Variance Request.

5. Plant Tours

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The undersigned made two plant tours, one on August 16 with the Plant Manager, and the other on August 17 with Mr. Adrian, et al. The following were posted on the Employees' Bulletin Board: (a) The O.S.H.A. Poster, (b) the respirator notice (See Attachment No. 4), (c) A copy of the Variance Request.

All employees were observed to be wearing respirators, housekeeping was very good. One dust collector in the finishing area had been moved outside. Unibestos scrap was observed being dumped without cover on an area adjacent to the plant. This was also noted and commented on by Mr. Adrian. The undersigned commented that he anticipated that EPA would soon publish regulations on dumping of asbestos, and that Pittsburgh Corning would implement these regulations.

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Mr. C. E. Van Horne
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August 19, 1971

The following dust masks were in use:

Dustfoe 66
BM 2166 (Filter)

Dustfoe 77
BM 21B-97 (Filter)

Comfo Mask
BM 21B-90 (Filter)

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The newly developed Comfo Mask was being used by all employees in finishing, scrap grinding, and raw material loading. The other masks were being used in other areas.

Lee B. Grant, M.D.
Medical Director

LBG:lc
Attachments
cc: Mr. E. W. Holman
Mr. G. S. Gregory
Mr. William Farkos

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BULLETIN

No. 256

8-16-71

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MEETINGS, AUGUST 17, 1971, OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE
FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS AND SHIFTS ARE SCHEDULED IN
THE ENGINEERING ROOM IN THE PLANT OFFICE AT THE FOL-
LOWING TIMES:

7:30 A. M.	3RD SHIFT PRODUCTION
8:00 A. M.	1ST SHIFT PRODUCTION
1:30 P. M.	SHIPPING/RECEIVING & MAINTENANCE
2:30 P. M.	FINISHING DEPARTMENT
4:00 P. M.	2ND SHIFT PRODUCTION

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1. Introduce myself.

2. Why Are Dust Masks Required And For How Much Longer?

a. 1966 TLV 10X higher than May, 1971 - explain in terms of asbestosis and lung cancer particularly related to cigarette smoking.

b. P.H.S. Tyler Plant Study, March, 1967, showed safe dust levels except for scrap feeder, scrap grinder and finishing saw operator. Now using new TLV as of May, 1971, all plant personnel are being exposed to hazardous dust levels .. Must Wear Dust Mask.

c. During 1966-1971 - First consideration was given to controlling dust to safe levels with ventilation which could have been done for the plant employees but could not be done for the construction worker who uses the product.

d. Company decision was made to develop a product without asbestos, which would eliminate the hazard to both groups of employees (i.e., making and using the product). Plans now call for a complete changeover to "Unibest" in which the asbestos has been replaced by mineral fiber by mid-1971, at which time dust masks will no longer be required.

3. Why Are New Medical Examinations Being Done?

a. 20-30 years' exposure to high concentrations of asbestos dust may cause asbestosis and/or lung cancer.

It is known that certain medical symptoms and changes in lung function show up sooner than chest x-ray changes. Therefore, in an attempt to prevent more serious disease by early detection of changes in the lungs, a medical history, lung function studies, as well as a chest x-ray, will be performed every second year on all employees with at least a 5-year history of working with unibestos. This will be continued for several years even though we will not be making an asbestos-containing product. All positive findings will be reported to the employee, and, on his request, also to his personal physician.

4. Why Has Pittsburgh Corning Requested A Temporary Variance From The F.O.S.H.A. Standard For Asbestos?

a. The asbestos in air dust concentrations in the plant are higher than the standard for asbestos published May 29, 1971.

b. By substituting mineral fiber for asbestos, Pittsburgh Corning expects to be in compliance with the asbestos standard by July, 1972.

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THE EAST TEXAS CHEST HOSPITAL, AT OVERTOWN, HAS AGREED TO PERFORM THE ANNUAL CHEST X-RAYS AND OTHER TESTS FOR PPG CORNING'S EMPLOYEES.

THE COMPANY BEARS ALL HOSPITAL EXPENSES, HOWEVER, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH EMPLOYEE TO ARRIVE AT THE SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT TIME AND FURNISH HIS OWN TRANSPORTATION. UPON ARRIVING AT THE HOSPITAL, PLEASE CONTACT THE INFORMATION DESK FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PLANT OFFICE.

PLEASE CONSULT THE BELOW FOR APPOINTMENT DATES AND TIMES.

DAY	TIME	EMPLOYEES
8-9-71	9:30 A. M.	ROY, D. PHILLIPS, L. MOORE, J.
8-9-71	10:30 A. M.	JACKSON, J. WARREN, V. L. KAY, J.
8-9-71	11:15 A. M.	RIDGWAY, J. BOSLEY, D. REESE, D.
8-9-71	1:00 P. M.	ARTERBERRY, J. COOKS, I. HEDLOCK, G.
8-9-71	1:45 P. M.	CLARK, B. SIMPSON, M. FORTSON, J.
8-9-71	2:30 P. M.	HORTON, W. PINNE, W. RODINSON, E.
8-9-71	3:15 P. M.	WRIGHT, F. HENDERSON, C. DUNAWAY, J.
8-10-71	1:00 P. M.	JONES, B. WOLSKI, F. BRITCH, C.
8-10-71	1:45 P. M.	FAIR, J. STEPHENSON, R. BLAYLOCK, E.
8-10-71	2:30 P. M.	BROOKS, L. MAULDIN, I. WILKINS, W.
8-10-71	3:15 P. M.	GASKIN, F. COBB, D. HELM, G.
8-10-71	4:00 P. M.	WARREN, D. F. POPE, A. CHARGE, S. O.
8-16-71	9:30 A. M.	CARPENTER, H. C. CLARK, B. HORTON, W.
8-16-71	10:30 A. M.	666 McKEE, M. 11/60 SPENCER, H.

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NOTE: PLANT WAS
SHOT DOWN FROM
JULY 19, 1971 - AUG 2, 1971

BULLETIN

No. 254

7-26-71

TO ALL EMPLOYEES

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EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2, 1971 ALL PERSONNEL WILL BE REQUIRED
TO WEAR ON THEIR FACE, AT ALL TIMES IN THE PLANT A DUST-
FOE #77 OR OTHER EFFECTIVE TYPE OF RESPIRATOR.

THE ONLY AREAS WHERE RESPIRATORS WILL NOT BE REQUIRED
ARE IN THE (1) LUNCH ROOM, (2) SUPERVISORS' OFFICES,
(3) LATRINES AND (4) PLANT OFFICE.

THE WORKMAN'S COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE COMPANY'S
OBLIGATION. THE NEW OCCUPATIONAL, SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT
CLEARLY DEFINES BOTH THE EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES OBLIGATIONS.

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A. E. van Horn

Wm. B. Jenkins

/OM

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August 24, 1971

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: UNIBEST DISCUSSION WITH SANDY HOLMAN, AUGUST 24, 1971

Only reason for staying with unibestos and not closing down until Unibest is in production is market continuity profit margin is on 5.6%.

At the Port Allegany Plant they shut down on August 16 for one month the unibestos manufacturer and are running only one line of Unibest on experimental pilot plant basis trying to solve the binder migration problem. There is some cutting of unibestos.

There are 60 total employees in unibestos plant. Port Allegany has 441 employees of which 91 are salaried.

The timetable for Unibest is based on solution of binder problem prior to September 26th Board Meeting. After Board approval, production in 6 months at Port and 9 months at Tyler, including new manufacturing building.

I advised again about the increased risk represented by the longer Tyler exposure which should be considered when deciding on whether to close out Tyler Plant.

Lee B. Grant, M.D.
Medical Director

LBG:lc

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1019 AM MTG (SS W/CHIEF)
UNIBOP CHARLES CROOP PRES
ELMER MCQUILLEN V.P.
LOUIS DUGLL SECT
JAMES LATROP. COMMINT
CHIEF
GERALD. FROM (TILLAGH)

3³⁰ MTG
IN PRODUCTS
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