

I. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (South Bound Brook)

A. Felts and Papers

180 tons of Erie flooring felt was produced using TCD latex and white water was reused during this trial. A problem was encountered with an extensive build-up of foreign material in the latex storage tanks. Samples of the material have been sent to TCD for analysis of the cause which may be shipping container contamination.

Asbestos Saturating Paper

Laboratory study has shown that the use of regular organic roofing felt scrap in place of bleached sulfite in the furnish for asbestos saturating paper, accompanied by an increase in starch, results in substantial improvement in delamination resistance. Plant trials are planned to verify these findings.

Gasketing Sheet

A plant test has been scheduled to evaluate a laboratory formulation for a new, SBR, asbestos gasket paper which will employ a blend of TCD latex and Uniroyal to achieve the required stock freeness and physical properties.

B. Automotive

Moldable Mastic Sound Deadening Membrane

Tests on vacuum-forming molded mastic sheet have shown limitations in the depth of draw and radius of bend that can be achieved for certain shapes desired by automotive manufacturers. Sail area parts can be fabricated and samples were submitted to General Motors but they have now decided to eliminate this sound treatment and increase the insulation of the floor pan area. It is believed that vacuum forming a dash unit offers the most promise from the sales volume and processing ability standpoints. Future work, therefore, will be directed to this product. Exploration of other molding methods will continue in conjunction with the Engineering Department.

II. MINERAL PRODUCTS (Hagerstown)

A. Raw Materials and New Formula Evaluations

Three plants are presently operating at 100% substitution of potassium aluminum fluoride for cryolite and progress continues to be satisfactory with this lower-cost insolubilizing agent.