

FOSECO INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
INTER-COMPANY AND INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

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Date: 7th February, 1974

From: J.E. WILLIAMS

Division:

*Please give me written
→ comments as soon as possible
on the enclosed subject
matter.*

W. Williams

INGOT TREATMENT COMMITTEE

ACTION REVIEW

A meeting was held at Foseco International on Wednesday, 6th February, between Messrs. Seguin and Williams to review actions arising from the Ingot Treatment Committee Meeting held in October 1973. For the sake of brevity, actions are referred to by the number in the Minutes of the October meeting which were issued as Ingot Treatment Bulletin No. 16.

J. Williams
J.E. Williams

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J.E. Williams

Ingot Treatment Lab. File

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

Pos-557

1. Action complete - Ingot Treatment Bulletin No. 18 issued.
(Copy sent to H. Shephard, U.S.A. - F. Heat, Canada).
2. Replies have now been received from all European Operating Companies.
These will be summarised and distributed by the Secretary.

2. (a) It has been agreed that a programme should be instituted to determine the quantitative effect of carrying out Amitecs at 1500°C and 1420°C on both PROFAX and FERRUX. It is intended to compare the following products at both temperatures.

PROFAX

PROFAX 10 France, PROFAX 10 Fosco (F.S.), PROFAX 90 France, PROFAX 60 U.K., high fibre content PROFAX F.I.L. and PROFAX 2000 F.I.L.

FERRUX

FERRUX 300C France, FERRUX 707 U.K., FERRUX 747 U.K. and RADEX France. It is also intended to examine varying addition rates of R.M. 531 in FERRUX 707. The above exercise will be carried out in France due to current power restrictions in the U.K. If any delegate wishes to amend, or add to, the above list he should communicate his requirements to the Secretary as soon as possible.

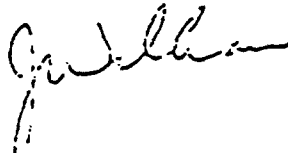
2. (b) All delegates agreed that this was desirable but it is obvious that a development programme would need to be instituted in order to obtain a suitable control method.
2. (c) The answers to this Action showed clearly a divergence of opinion throughout Europe with regard to the attitude adopted to customers in connection with test equipment.
(See attached report)
3. Due to existing raw material shortages throughout Europe it is impossible for operating companies to notify Miss Walton of every change in recipe. The six monthly FERRUX and PROFAX Review will continue.
(This is a world-wide action).
4. Action complete - Ingot Treatment Bulletin No. 17 issued.
(Copy sent to H. Shephard, U.S.A. - F. Heat, Canada).
5. Action incomplete. Samples of PROFAX are now in France and awaiting evaluation. A delay was experienced due to production problems in Sweden created by raw material shortages and a full order book. It is anticipated that this action will now be complete by the end of March 1974.
(This refers to evaluation of SiO₂/Asbestos free).

6. Because of the current environmental lobby throughout the world this action should be treated with urgency by all Operating Companies. The European Executive Directors Board should be asked to pursue this at a high level within their own Companies. Every Company should have on its shelf an asbestos and/or silica-free PROFAX recipe. Future action - Dr. J. Schifferath.
(This should also be a prime objective of the N. American Heading Committee).
7. Action complete - See Ingot Treatment Bulletin No. 16. Considerable technical development effort at F.I.L. has been devoted to the P.F. resin replacement programme and a report will be issued by the end of February outlining the work recently completed by Mr. Mellows. The recent Fosco Steelmills International Ltd. Board Meeting indicated that a top priority project for 1974 should be the evaluation of alternative binder systems in PROFAX.
(Now underway - a report from Santighian on the development of E.P. 5465 is to be circulated).
8. This should be a continuing activity in all Operating Companies. It was felt that more co-ordination/communication is required between Companies since it would appear that work being carried out in individual Companies may benefit the majority. To this effect, each delegate should keep the Secretary informed of any change where a reduction in raw material or production costs is obtained.
9. (a) Action incomplete. PROFAX tiles with surface coatings have been prepared at Fosco (F.S.) and are ready for evaluation. The project completion date has been put back to 31st March.
9. (b) Fosco G.m.b.H. report that the use of X2846 has solved their sticking problems. The Secretary is to obtain a more detailed report from G.m.b.H. on this topic.
(Report received but not worthy of circulation - further information requested).
10. Action complete. See memo dated 8th November, 1973, issued by Secretary.
(Report attached - should not be taken as a universal solution to floaters - Fosco (F.S.) had special problems).
11. Action complete.
This was a mistake by P.G. Mailroy - they do not mark teeming levels.
12. Action complete. See memo dated 19th November, 1973, issued by Secretary. Further details concerning the French experience with forging ingot insulation are to be issued as a separate memo.
(If you are interested in forging ingots let me know).
13. Action complete. See memo dated 19th November, 1973, issued by Secretary.
(See attached memo).

14. Replies have now been received from all Operating Companies and have been summarised by the Secretary for distribution to delegates. The results indicate that only the U.K. Steel Industry is seriously evaluating Kaowool insulators.
(Report attached - any signs of this in North America?)
15. Action complete. See memo dated 9th January, 1974, issued by Secretary. The technique of tile production by pressing is currently being investigated by F.I.L.
(Latest information from Italy suggests some tiles are being pressed).
16. Action complete. See memo dated 8th November, 1973, issued by Secretary.
(See attached memo).
17. Action complete. See memo dated 11th January, 1974, issued by Secretary.
(See attached memo).
18. Due to environmental problems, granulation has now assumed an importance far greater than ever before. Numerous attempts have previously been made to granulate various Fosco products but it appears that no co-ordinated effort/policy has been directed to this end. Trials are currently underway in the U.K., Germany and France, and possibly other countries. The results of these trials will be put into report form by Fosco International for distribution to delegates. It is felt that the physical granulation of any product is a relatively simple matter but the policy decision of whether or not to invest money in granulation is another matter. The Executive Directors meeting should be asked to clarify their attitude with regard to whether or not their Companies intend to sell granulated products.
(Please remind me to send you the results should I forget to do so).
19. Action complete. The basic problem in Spain would appear to be one associated with a change-over in raw material suppliers. There does remain, however, the problem of replacing P.F. resin in KALMINEX, which is as yet unresolved.
(Wanted - binding system for KALMINEX 88 P.F. resin free).
- 20, 21, 22 & 23. Actions incomplete. Samples of KALTOP received from Japan have been evaluated by Fosco France, Fosco Germany and F.I.L. with promising results. It would appear that for short standing times KALTOP is not so efficient as French FUMEX 3000, but for long standing times KALTOP is equally efficient. Trials are planned in France and Germany but due to the current market climate no trials are planned in the U.K. The main difficulty still appears to be one of manufacturing technique. Action completion date has been put back to the end of April 1974.
(In my estimation the new completion date is too optimistic).

- 24 & 26. Action complete. See memo issued by Secretary dated 12th December 1973.
(I would welcome this information from North America).
25. Trials in France and Germany have been unsuccessful but development work continues. A decision on the future of this product has been deferred until the end of March.

Subject to confirmation from the Chairman of the European Executive Committee, the next meeting of the European Ingot Treatment Committee will take place in Paris in June at a date yet to be fixed.
(Should any personnel from North America be in Europe at this time they could attend this meeting).



J.E. Williams