



Asbestos Kit

ing article was submitted by Bob our Nitro location. Bob is the advantage of the revised contri-award program. We hope even ideas will come from our field cure.

Editor

stos handling and disposal at Nitro are probably quite other Monsanto Plants: The inating all asbestos containing sing permits when removing ulation, following approved ctices, etc. One item the plant ed, however, may be unique. handling kit has been pre- is required as part of the stos Handling & Disposal Per- ire. The kits are available in ly and consist of the following

A Acceptable labelled asbestos al bags
as Hazard Caution Signs
Wire Fasteners
f disposable Tyvek coveralls
rent sizes available)
of disposable shoe coverings
sable hair coverings
warning tape

are neatly assembled and cabinet for immediate use.

ry protection was purposely he kits as no one specific type all of the different circum- may be encountered. When ick up the asbestos kits from ly, they also receive the appro- ratory protection, following -established by the Plant Indus- ist and Safety Personnel.

The kit simplifies gathering the necessary equipment for each job and in combination with the permit procedure assures that the necessary precautions are taken.

MIHAT Update

by Dick Smith

As promised (Monitor Vol. 4, No. 9), the Monsanto Industrial Hygiene Analytical Testing (MIHAT) program is well into its initial phase of standards generation evaluation, storage studies, and protocol refinement.

This joint effort of DMEH-ESC promises to be a key element in DMEH's quality assessment/assurance program. This program evolved over the past few years and contains a number of elements: the Program Evaluation Guide (PEG), monitoring methods review, method classification, plant contact/training, field validation, IH analytical testing, and methods standardization.

MIHAT will fully address sampling media and workplace contaminant and level specificities. That is, a plant IH laboratory will receive MIHAT samples on the media routinely used at that location, for key materials of interest at that location, and at levels routinely encountered at that location. Additionally, MIHAT will be kept evergreen, i.e., as needs change so will MIHAT output.

The matrix of plant, material, sampling media and level was chosen by examining MEHI output for three years (1981-1983 inclusive) and contacting locations as to new projects and monitoring requirements. The matrix currently involves thirty plants and thirteen materials; acrylonitrile, adipic acid, benzene, 1,3-butadiene, formaldehyde, freon, hydrofluoric acid, oil mist, phosphoric acid, phosphorus, styrene, Thermi- nol and xylene.

The MIHAT samples will be produced on a quarterly basis with six or seven of the thirteen materials one quarter and the remaining materials the next quarter in order to even the workload. Each material will be present at three levels in duplicate.

An individual plant's performance will be viewed in two ways: versus mean of all plants and versus theoretical with an accompanying 25% window emulating the OSHA limits on accuracy. The action taken by DMEH in the event of deviant performance will be to contact the plant and assist in troubleshooting the problem.

The DMEH goal is to have at least one set of MIHAT samples distributed in 1984 with continuous quarterly production thereafter.

Asbestos and You

by S. D. Paul

If you have asbestos in your plant, there are some things you need to know about. Let's take a general look at some of those things so we can put the problem in perspective.

Since the OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard for asbestos issued on November 4, 1983 has been stayed, the current effective standard was issued on July 1, 1976. The following provisions are incorporated in that standard.

1. Exposure limits: PEL = 2 fb/cc;
C = 10 fb/cc
2. Engineering controls: enclosure, ventilation, etc.
3. Work practices: wet methods
4. Personal protective equipment - clothing and respirators
5. Change rooms
6. Monitoring
7. Caution signs and labels
8. Housekeeping
9. Recordkeeping
10. Medical examinations

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For remedial or demolition activities, all of the above provisions apply. In addition, other items which should be addressed include:

1. Transportation of asbestos contaminated waste
2. Disposal
3. EPA regulations
4. Training
5. Area clean-up
6. Procedures for remedial activities
7. Field inspection
8. Bagging of debris
9. Permits and licences

During remedial or demolition activities, at least one field inspection by OSHA should be expected due to a recently implemented plan between EPA and OSHA. When a disposal permit is arranged with EPA, OSHA is informed and visits the site from which the debris originates.

It is extremely important that you understand in detail what must be done and why it must be done. Be sure that employees are trained, given appropriate medical examinations, and use proper protective equipment and work practices. Monitor, evaluate and control exposures to the fullest degree. Review the OSHA standard and EPA regulations. Plan and organize your IH efforts associated with asbestos well. This health issue is big and it's getting bigger. Document your activities and maintain good records.