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November 14, 1944

Mr. Howard Chase
Sorg-Warner, Spring Division
25th and Madison Avenue
Bellwood, Illinois 60104

Dear Mr. Chase:

Your questions concerning asbestos contamination from asbestos fiber have been referred to me by our Mr. Jan Partidge.

Threshold Limit Values for all toxic materials are determined by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. These values refer to the airborne concentration of substances, and represent conditions under which it is believed nearly all persons may be repeatedly exposed, day after day, without adverse effect. The TLV for asbestos fiber has been set at 5 million particles per cubic foot of air (5 MPVCF). However, the ACGIH has recently recommended that this TLV be reduced to 1 MPVCF or 12 fibers per cc. The particles count measurement is done by the impinger method and the fiber per cc count done by the membrane filter technique. Both of these sampling and analysis procedures have been developed by the United States Public Health Service. Complete information on the procedures and their application can be obtained from:

Dr. Howard Ayer
Chief, Environmental Activities
Field Division
Occupational Health Program
Department of Health, Education & Welfare
1611 Broadway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

The addresses of individuals to contact in the organizations referred to on page 4 of our paper "Asbestos and Human Health" are as follows:

(1) United States Public Health Service -

Dr. Louis Grollay
United States Public Health Service
1611 Broadway
Cincinnati, Ohio

Mr. Howard Gable

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(2) Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America

Dr. Robert T. F. delouville
Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America
1211 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222

(3) Asbestos Research Council

Dr. S. Holmes, Secretary
Asbestos Research Council
P.O. Box 60
Rochdale, Lancashire, England

(4) Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health

Dr. F. Palmer, Scientific Secretary
Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health
Suite 1220
1211 Building
3 Place Ville Marie
Montreal 2, P.Q.
Canada

Airborne particle monitoring equipment is made by at least three firms in the United States, including bench and amb. The equipment that we use was manufactured by:

Rayco Instruments, Inc.
141 Jefferson Street
San Jose, California.

Whenever this type of equipment is used to determine some dust concentrations, it must initially be correlated with data obtained simultaneously by either the impinger or membrane filter techniques, otherwise the data have no significance relative to health hazard.

If you require additional information on this subject, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

L. H. Palmer, Director
Environmental Control

LMH/can

cc: M. M. Hendry - Asbestos 1200
E. G. Burrows
D. Partridge - Chicago Office

M. H. Bell - CHQ
W. F. Holmes - CHQ
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