

GAF CORPORATION
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS DIVISION
RESEARCH LABORATORIES
SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES
NEW PRODUCTS STEERING COMMITTEE
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS DIVISION
ASBESTOS PAPER & MILLBOARD

A meeting of the subject committee was held on
May 31, 1972 in New York. The following attended:

E. A. Cavicchio	Erie
F. T. Campagna	New York
W. Darrell	New York
D. A. Davis	So. Bound Brook
R. P. Fraser	New York
T. J. Gillick	Glenville
W. R. Holt	Erie
L. B. Stocks	New York
W. C. Schwingen	So. Bound Brook ✓

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In the interest of simplicity the items discussed by this committee were generally divided into two groups: asbestos millboard and asbestos paper.

I. ASBESTOS MILLBOARD

A discussion of the asbestos millboard product line was held. It was pointed out by Marketing that the manufacturing facilities for millboard should be set up to adequately handle \$1,000,000 worth of millboard business. At the present time between 30 and 40 percent of this business will be cut parts with this number increasing in time to 50 percent. Consideration has been given and will continue to be given to cutting the large sized parts as ordered by the Erie plant and setting up an outside contractor shop to cut small parts. The bulk of the millboard business, as discussed at this time, is the so-called standard line of asbestos millboard product not requiring any specialized formulation and, therefore, requiring very little R&D time. Several of the specific areas discussed which do require an R&D effort were as follows:

A. Millboard Scrap

There is a continuing shortage of asbestos millboard scrap available on a return basis from our customers. Manufacturing and Marketing have made several efforts with the key accounts to increase the return of scrap. This included, at one point, doubling the price we paid for the return of a ton of scrap from \$50 to \$100. Manufacturing considers the proper percentage of scrap in the furnish to be a key to high speed efficient operation. A renewed effort will be made by Manufacturing

MICH08529

and Marketing possibly working in conjunction with our traffic specialists to set up a program with our key accounts to make it easier for them to return scrap to Erie. In the meantime R&D will work toward development of a universal millboard furnish not requiring scrap but retaining the same properties and which will run as well on the millboard machine. This project should have highest priority.

B. Lehr Discs

In view of the apparent difficulty in getting our high temperature Lehr Disc formulation approved and the lack of interest on the part of the customer, no further R&D effort on this product will be made at this time.

C. Toasterboard

A series of laboratory tests are needed on this product line in an effort to gather electrical data for use by Marketing in an effort to sell this product to the small electrical appliance market including toaster manufacturers. R&D will prepare an authorization request for funds to cover this testing by an outside laboratory.

D. Garlock

This blue asbestos latex millboard product is a production item and is performing well at this point, and there is no further need for it on this agenda.

II. ASBESTOS PAPER

A. Flexitallic Gasket

This project requires the development of a wax modified latex gasketing material. A laboratory formulation has been prepared. The raw materials for a test run are on hand, and the run will be scheduled.

B. Marley

Test rolls of the two latest GAF formulations have been submitted to Marley, and we are awaiting the outcome of the customer's evaluation. A limited amount of R&D effort is continuing to improve these formulations.

C. Rollboard

In order to improve the quality and economics of laminating this product, a new laminator would be necessary at Erie. There is a question as to whether the volume of this product alone can justify such an expenditure. It is possible that the laminator could be justified based on the other products being developed which would require lamination and which will be discussed further in the minutes.

D. Aluminum Foil Faced Products

Marketing is interested in offering on a test market basis a line of these products. Since a commercial laminator of the type needed is not available at Erie they can consider purchasing this product from an

MICH08531

outside competitor and reselling it or having it laminated by an outside source. It was suggested that Marketing discuss this subject with High Vacuum Technology who currently laminate T/NA 100 and 200 products for GAF.

E. Victor Gasket

There has been a great deal of effort put forth in the last year to develop a number of products to meet Victor specification. These included several different millboard products and several different specifications where Victor is currently buying a millboard product but is desirous of obtaining material to meet this specification in roll form. We, therefore, have been attempting to develop asbestos paper formulations to meet their needs. We have reached the point where formulations and products are available in roll form which meet most of the specifications, and Marketing feels that Victor will allow deviations in the several areas needed so that our products will be approved.

F. Wolverine

This customer has a specification for an asbestos latex gasket and in order to meet this specification we would have to supply a densified product which is currently beyond our capability.

G. Gasket Release Coatings

The competitive line of asbestos latex gasketing has included speciality items with release coatings applied either on one or two sides of the sheet. At this point

MICH08532

GAF has neither the capability of producing these products nor the technical formulations needed beyond a current capability for applying graphite dispersion on one side. It was agreed that no R&D effort would be made yet to develop this capability. This subject will be reconsidered at a later date.

H. GAFPAC Gasket Line

1. Low Density

Currently there is available a small inventory of the nine different gasket products included in this product line. Marketing reported slow progress in developing customers for this material. One of the nine materials is laminated using the make-shift laminator at Erie. Manufacturing is able to supply the small quantity currently needed. If the volume for this product increases significantly, it will be another reason for considering the installation of a new laminator.

2. High Density

Marketing continues to report that the large volume in this market is the high density line of products. GAF does not have production capability to produce this line of material at this time. R&D has developed, using the laboratory calender, the calendering conditions necessary to densify the low density product to meet high density requirements. Some additional laboratory work is needed on the higher caliper high density

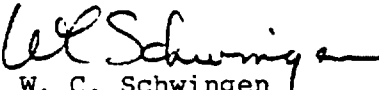
MICH08533

materials to determine whether it is best to calender two thin sheets and then laminate them or laminate two low density thin sheets and then calender the combined product. Manufacturing agreed to determine what equipment was needed at Erie to produce semi-production rolls of high density gasketing using the laboratory calender. This calender is capable of densifying a sheet 20" wide. This capability would allow Marketing to offer small semi-commercial rolls of high density gasketing in narrow widths for customer evaluation and possibly some limited sales. A full production calendering operation is not being considered at this time.

I. Asbestos Floor Felt

In conjunction with the manufacture of asbestos flooring felt for Armstrong Cork Co., R&D was requested to develop a more flexible, softer sheet to meet the needs of Armstrong's Lancaster operation. A test run was completed using a softer GAF latex from Chattanooga, and two test rolls have been shipped for customer evaluation.

The next meeting of this committee will be scheduled by Mr. Gillick for some time in September.


W. C. Schwingen

MICH08534