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October 30, 1969

Mr. R. G. Brown,
Personnel Manager
BB - Winchester

Dear Bob:

The question which you posed on respirators is a very common one. However, it is our conviction that a respirator must be U. S. Bureau of Mines approved for the particular application. When such a respirator is utilized its effectiveness for the particular job is not questioned.

This thought is the basic line in Industrial Hygiene Bulletin No. 671 (copy attached).

The types of respirators which you described, which the men like, is commonly known as a "Martindale" and is of little or no value where health hazards are existent. This type of respirator should not be utilized nor stocked in any Abex plant. I realize this does give the plant a problem of education - that of educating the workers to use the proper protective device for the job at hand. However, this is the only method that you can utilize and know that your workers are protected. However, this may be quite a job when your personnel are complaining about a MSA Dustfoe 66 respirator which only weighs three ounces.

Good Luck!



C. H. BORCHERDING, JR.,
Industrial Hygienist

CHB:cs

cc: C. B. Mallory

C. C. Blackwell, Jr., M.D.

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