FILE NAME: Westinghouse Pennsylvania Archives (WHPA)

DATE: 0000

DOC#: WHPA014

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: PA Archive Report of Findings

RG-43 {series #43.51}
Records of the Dept of Environmental Resources (Bureau of Occupational Health)
Investigative Reports of Health Hazards in Industrial Plants, ca. 1941-1973.
(66 microfilm rolls) Arranged alphabetically by company.
Investigations into health hazards and pollution complaints at various industrial plants throughout the state are included in this series. The records span numerous years for some facilities, such as a thirty-year run of data for the Lebanon Steel Foundry. Information contained in the files includes: data on medical problems for individuals caused by hazardous working conditions (with names of the individuals given in a few instances), specifics on the types on machinery utilized at specific plants, employment statistics, survey records, inspection results and related laboratory reports, as well as descriptions of miscellaneous industrial processes

The summaries immediately below are in the same order as the documents which follow. In almost all case, Barry Castleman's notes precede the collection of documents for each company. His notes are in chronological order.

Note: Use the CTRL + click to follow the hyperlinks. Doing so will leave the original document open.

Babcox and Wilcox

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1967 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1941 dust complaint.
- paarchivedocuments\babcock&wilcoxco.pdf

Bendix, York,PA

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1966-1969 Fibrous glass dust from printed circuit boards
- Some dust counts recorded, well within legal limits
- paarchivedocuments\Bendix York.PDF

Benjamin Foster Co

- 1966 – letter from US Dept HEW describes Asbestos attached references
- 1967 asbestos containing dust counts
    - 5below 5 MPPCF
    - Others 6.0, 9.6, 16.0, 33.4
- Respirators discussed
- Employees sent for chest x-ray
- 12/67 dust counts improved 1.4 – 4.6 MPPCF
- paarchivedocuments\Benjamin Foster Co.PDF

Bethlehem Steel

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1972 evidence of abnormal chest x-rays, dust counts
- 1966 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\bethlehamsteel.pdf

BF Goodrich

- Nothing asbestos specific
- Oaks PA 1960 personnel
- 1962 rubber dust survey
- 1963 smoke and heat survey
- 1966 general inspection
- Soapstone dust Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\bf goodrich .pdf

Carborundum Co

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1972 Documents mentions company officials
- 1972 job/hazard sheets,
- Respirator use, dust collection, talc, and recirculation of air.
- paarchivedocuments\carborundum.pdf

Carrier Corp

- Nothing asbestos specific
- Philadelphia, Pa
- 1941 documents show employee complaint about welding fumes, recommendation for ventilation, and plant foreman named.
- **paarchivedocuments\carrier corp.pdf**

Caterpillar

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1971 documents show evidence of company officials, air recirculation request, and pre-placement medical exams which includes x-rays.
- 1954 inspection
- paarchivedocuments\caterpillar.pdf

Certain-Teed

- 1966 Investigation of workmen's compensation claim for fiberglass exposed worker names safety supervisor Edward Kilgallon and physician Dr J Buckley Mountaintop PA Report by Donald Bottomley M.D.
- Other inspections of roofing plant fiberglass, silica, static, ceramics, talc
- 10/2/68 discussions of asbestos sampling at York led government inspector to decide not to do testing
- 1/11/60 Occ. Health nursing report on Bestwall Gypsum Co, Certain-Teed, Paoli PA , names management personnel, No other info
- 4/27/73 field report on Ambler pipe plant
- Results of 1972 chest x-rays include "10 abnormal results" out of 53, rest to be submitted 2/74
- Undated printed report (source undisclosed) say workers at Certain-Teed Ft Washington plant getting lung function tests
- paarchivedocuments\Certain-Teed.PDF

Colt Industry

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1971 documentation shows company officials, request to implement ventilation and respirator program.
- 1972 inspection and follow up
- paarchivedocuments\colt industries.pdf

Crane.

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1969 &1972 inspections
- 1966 evidence of dust studies,
- Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1967-19 68 x-ray program, respirator program, and air ventilation.
- **paarchivedocuments\crane.pdf**

DuPont

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1970 Plant Inspection at Moosic
- 1971 Plant Inspection in Philadelphia
- 1970 & 1971 Plant inspection at photo products plant at Towanda
- 1969 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\DuPont.pdf

General Electric Erie

- Planned Asbestos survey 1965
- 1964 punch cards with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix with asbestos dust hazard documented in building 6
- 1964 analysis of findings mentions asbestos and other hazards
- 1959 complaint of rash/dermatitis
- 1954 survey of asbestos dust – all samples <5 MPPCF
- 1951 Report of Investigation of asbestos dust – 4.1 – 8.1 MPPCF
- 1951 Report on asbestos dust - 3.6 - 17.8 MPPCF
- 1949 Report of Investigation of exposure to asbestos dust "weighted exposure of personnel operating machines was too high" - all dust counts >5MPPCF most >10, highest 32.8 MPPCF
- 1949 free silica and asbestos study
- paarchivedocuments\General Electric Erie.pdf

General Electric Philadelphia

- 1965 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix with asbestos dust hazard documented in Plastics Laboratory
- 1970 Report of asbestos dust study – switch gears manufacturing 0.12 – 0.25f/ml
- 1971 Field report of Asbestos dust
- 1971 Report letters of plant survey of asbestos dust - in arc chute molding dust counts < 5MPPCF
- paarchivedocuments\gen elec philly.pdf

General Electric Transport Equipment

- 1972 application for approval of air recirculation system with asbestos dust as contaminant
- 1973 field reports – all asbestos operations moved to one area of Bldg 24 with local exhaust ventilation
- 1972 Sample and Laboratory report of asbestos dust – 0.28 – 0.82 f/ml
- 1971 complaint against working condition with signatures
- paarchivedocuments\gen elec trans equip.pdf

General Electric Asbestos

- 1967 Application for approval of air recirculation system with asbestos dust as contaminant
- 1937 Investigation of Hazard of Asbestos Dust at General Electric Co. York Wire Works
- 1939 request for info regarding harmful effects of asbestos dust
- 1965 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix with asbestos dust hazard documented Crocodolite asbestos ball milled and ground manually. Exhaust hood recommended
- paarchivedocuments\general electric asbestos.pdf

General Electric Service Shop

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1971 Inspection report
- 1969 compliance report
- 1969 Field Report
- 1968 Review of Application for approval of air recirculation system
- Other dusts, nothing on asbestos
- paarchivedocuments\General Electric Service Shop.pdf

Goodyear

- 1967 Told to substitute benzene with less toxic paint and varnish remover
- Nothing on asbestos, some brief reference to other health hazards in rubber plant.
- paarchivedocuments\Goodyear.PDF

Johns Manville

- 1973 Inspection at Plastic PVC pipe factory with Occupation/Hazard form
- 1972 Application for approval of air recirculation system
- 1972 field report with dust study
- 1970 field report with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1966 letter with product formula
- 1964 letter about inspections
- 1962 free silica dust sample and lab report
- 1962 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix asbestos listed under general dust heading
- 1959 & 1958 letter about chest x-ray program
- paarchivedocuments\Johns Manville.pdf

Melrath Supply & Gasket Co

- Steel, copper, wood dust (dust handling system for welding & soldering
- Late 1970 series of inspections
- Report mentions 50 workers exposed to "Be and Asbestos" out of 152 workers
- Refers to chest x-ray program
- Nothing else on asbestos
- paarchivedocuments\Melrath Supply and Gasket Co.PDF

Pars Mfg Ambler PA Gasket & Packing plant

- 6/20/66 recommend establishing pre-placement and periodic chest x-ray program
- 7/6/66 letter to owner also attached Hygiene Info Guide entitled "Asbestos", Booklet entitled "Dust", and article 432 as revised (law?)
- paarchivedocuments\Pars Mfg.PDF

Pecora Chemical

- 7/20/70 refers to 1968 asbestos survey (no details of 1968 survey found
- 7/23/64 Survey recommends respirator for some plant workers and annual chest x-rays Enclosed "Dust" booklet and Hygiene Info Guide entitled "Asbestos" and Act 432
- Dust counts 1.4 -4.1 MPPCF
- Report still recommends respirators for some workers: "it should also be emphasizing that cases of lung disease have occurred among workers exposed to low dust concentrations"
- 8/9/71(?) Field report shows government inspectors interested in asbestos but told none used "currently"
- paarchivedocuments\Pecora Chemical.PDF

Selby and Battersby

- 1972 Inspection Form mention employee with asbestosis attributed to work on ships in 1930's – 1940's
- 1972 Occupation/Hazard form
- paarchivedocuments\selby and battersby.pdf

Sun Shipbuilding

- 11/28/61 plant info record lists occupational hazard not including asbestos
- 5/22/69 Visited the company to deliver the film "Hidden Hazards"
- 3/2869 State approves air recirculation system, whose approval the company requested on 3/13/69
- 3/10/69 Film "All in a Day's work" shown to management who said it was "too technical" to show employees
- Refers to pipe insulation work for which the company had contacted "Clarke Steven to do their asbestos dust counting"
- Some other documents on welding and other hazards including names of management officials
- paarchivedocuments\Sun Shipbuilding.PDF

Superior Combustion Industries

- 1961 plant punch card with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1971 field report plans for installation of ventilation booth and airline respirator use: engineer handling safety will be cut due to poor business
- 1970 Field Report documents use of asbestos for insulation and exposure to workers
- 1965 Field Report with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix with asbestos sawing as an operation. Control measure : "Wet Method"
- paarchivedocuments\superior combustion industries.pdf

Union Carbide.

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1973 letter about plant visits
- 1969 punch card with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1968 & 1969 Field Reports
- 1968 letter recommending MSA dust respirators
- 1967 letter recommending chest x-rays for workers welding and grinding
- 1965 punch card with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix.
- paarchivedocuments\union carbide.pdf

Warren Co Erie PA

- Fiberglass products, nothing on asbestos
- paarchivedocuments\Warren Co.PDF

Westinghouse Airbrake

- No asbestos specific info
- 1969 punch card with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1970 Field Report
- 1970 summary of field report
- 1969 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1963 punch card with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1964 Dust Concentration study
- 1943 Dust Concentration study
- paarchivedocuments\Westinghouse Airbrake.pdf

Westinghouse Atomic

- No asbestos specific info
- 1968 punch cards with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1952 complaint letter about draft and dust
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse atomic.pdf

Westinghouse Beaver

- No asbestos specific info
- 1970 punch cards with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1970 report of inspection. Recirculation of air an issue
- 1970 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse beaver.pdf

Westinghouse Bedford

- 1971 Inspection at Industrial Division documents asbestos paper in remarks
- 1971 Occupation/Hazard forms mentions asbestos dust hazard for "Treaters"
- 1970 letter with recommendation of ventilation system
- 1970 Sample and Laboratory Report for mica and asbestos where industrial insulating tape manufactured- Nothing detected
- 1969 Field report
- paarchivedocuments\Westinghouse Bedford.pdf

Westinghouse Ceramic

- No asbestos specific info
- 1969 Field Report
- 1968 summary of inspection
- 1968 Field Report with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1967 summary of inspection for exposure to silica dust
- 1967 dust studies and lab report
- 1967 field report with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1964 nursing consultation
- 1962 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse ceramic.pdf

Westinghouse East Pittsburg

- 1972 Inspection at electric vehicle plant with Occupation/Hazard forms asbestos dust documented for several occupations: vehicle wireman, upholsterer packer, maintenance man
- 1972 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse east pittsburgh.pdf

Westinghouse Elevator

- 1971 Inspection at elevator component plant with Occupation/Hazard forms. Asbestos dust hazard documented for insulation worker. Text describes cutting of asbestos sheets in the building with workers wearing respirators. In "near future" operation to be moved to isolated area with local exhaust system.
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse elevator.pdf

Westinghouse Irwin

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1969 Field report at Mica plant with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1959 summary letter from inspection
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse irwin.pdf

Westinghouse Johnstown

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 1971 Inspection at electric motor repair plant with Occupation/Hazard forms
- 1970 and 1969 field reports with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse johnstown.pdf

Westinghouse Lester

- 1962 punch card for steam division plant Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1971 field report investigating smoke and fumes
- 1970 summary of investigation
- 1968 field report
- 1964 summary of dust study investigation
- 1965 field report
- 1965 lab report of free silica dust
- 1964 union newsletter article
- 1964 field reports investigating welder lung case
- 1962 & 1963 field reports
- 1962 & 1963 lab reports
- Probable 1961 or 1963 Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix with remarks asbestos dust documented for mixing asbestos, making asbestos rolls, sewing asbestos blankets, cutting and sewing asbestos sheets
- 1960 summary of investigation with asbestos spray documented for soundproofing and insulation boiler casting
- paarchivedocuments\Westinghouse Lester.pdf

Westinghouse Philadelphia

- 1969 punch card from Electric Repair Division with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix
- 1969 field report request for air recirculation with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix mentions asbestos paper dust hazard at guillotine, no local exhaust ventilation.
- 1969 Application for approval of air recirculation system
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse philly.pdf

Westinghouse Research

- 1969 field report with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix, asbestos Transite used on nose cones of products and as backstop for laser.
- Insulating materials documented as asbestos hazard
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse research.pdf

Westinghouse Sharon

- 1959 punch card with Operation/Hazard/Control Measure matrix, asbestos documented as insulation filler "on the resins"
- paarchivedocuments\westinghouse sharon.pdf

Yarway - BlueBell, PA

- Nothing asbestos specific
- 5/25/70 wood dust, solvents, noise, welding, metal fumes and gases, Toulon, etc
- paarchivedocuments\Yarway Blue Bell.PDF

Companies for which no RG43 records were found

Aurora
John Bean
Buffalo
AW Chesterton
John Crane
Delaval
Durabla
Durametalic
James France
JH France
Francotherm
Garlock
Gould
IMO
Kentile
Leslie Controls
Quinn-T
Raybestos
Sacomo
Superior Environmental Equipment Corp
Thermal Ceramics
Yarnell Waring
York International

Chapter 4 Article 432

Rules and Regulations, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Health
Regulation Establishing Threshold Limits in places of employment
paarchivedocuments\chapter4_article432_1961.pdf
paarchivedocuments\chapter4_article432_rev69.pdf