FILE NAME: Quebec Asbestos Mining Association (QAMA)

DATE: 1980

DOC#: QAMA019

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health - Retrieval System on Asbestos

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OPERATION OF THE IOEH DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION

RETRIEVAL SYSTEM ON ASBESTOS

AN EXCELLENT, ACCESSIBLE SYSTEM.

We scan journals on occupational health in all languages, and also a number of medical journals of more general interest, for articles and other published documents on biological effects of asbestos and their control. We also scan published books. In addition to our own searching we enjoy cooperation of "mediators" in various countries who scan for us and send us such documents published in less familiar local journals, medical and technical, in their geographical area. (The most active mediators currently are in UK, Australia, USSR, Germany. Their help is much appreciated.) I see all the documents (our own and sent by mediators) and include the relevant ones into IOEH documentation file.

In doing that the following procedures are followed:

1) We give the document a (file number) current number. The current number will be between 1 and 999 if it is a book, between 1000 and 1999 if it is a non-scientific document (such as governmental regulation, safe work instructions, or even newspaper articles), and from 2000 up if it is a scientific article. The current number is our permanent identification of the document.

2) I give the document the (subject) code numbers. The list of code numbers is enclosed. (encl. 1) The code numbers describe the content of the document and the country of origin and are important for information retrieval.

3) If the document is published in a language other than English I provide it with an English abstract, in most instances written by myself. A full translation into English is provided for some documents.

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4) Then the document is entered into four files:

a) A card is made for the authors' file (example: encl. 2.) It contains the names of the authors, the current number and a full reference of the document.

b) A card is made for the current numbers' file (acquisition #) (example: encl. 3.) It contains the same date as the authors' file card, and in addition, the code numbers and a copy of the author's summary (in the original language). The upper edge of this filing card is provided with cut-ins indicating the year of publication. This enables to mechanically select documents published in certain calendar year (only from the current number 4353 up). An asterisk indicates that we have the full text of the document, in addition to the reference.

c) The current number of the document is entered into the code numbers' file (subject). This file is composed of plastic-coated cards, one card for each code number (subject). The current number of a document is marked on every card representing the given code number by drilling a hole at the pertinent spot. (example: encl. 4).

d) The three cards when made are put into their respective files and the document itself (the original, possibly with English abstract or translation, provided with the current number and the code numbers) is filed in the order of current numbers into the information repository (except for books which are kept on library shelves).

Information retrieval system is based on the described files. If the first author is known, the information is found in the author's file. If the authors are not known the question for the search must be defined and translated into the code numbers.

Example: *Information is required on finding of ferruginous bodies in the lungs of Canadians not occupationally exposed to asbestos. The list of code numbers (encl. 1) shows that the following code numbers are pertinent to this question: 21, 81, 1. The three cards belonging to the code numbers 21, 81 and 1 are taken out of the file and superimposed above each other over a lighted screen. (encl. 5)*

The light is covered by the cards and penetrates only at the spot where the same current number has been marked as a drilled hole into all three cards. In other words the shining spot indicates the current number of a document which bears these three code numbers, and consequently, the desired answer.

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Our example: The only spot which shines corresponds to current number 2588. It means that 2588 is the only document on the subject in our information repository: In the current numbers' file we find that 2588 is the article by Anjilvel, L. and Thurlbeck, W.M.: "The Incidence of Asbestos Bodies in the Lungs at Random Necropsies in Montreal". There is authors' summary on the card. We already have known from the current number being higher than 2001 that it is a scientific document. An asterisk shows that full text of the document is in our possession. Since we subscribe to Canadian Medical Association Journal we know that the article is on our library shelf or, as a copy, in our information repository file, under its current number.

P.V. Pelnar, M.D.

PVP/tb

Enclosures

OTHER REFERENCE SYSTEMS

some ring binder files ... very useful. all are referenced to the main "current numbers file."

I By Year. 1900–1980.

~~under each year is a list of all material published (in that year) that the library has a record of. The materials are listed by file number.~~

→ list of all material in the current numbers file (90% of which is "on hand") by year of publication. eg under "1935" is a list of about 40 file numbers, (whose abstracts can be checked in the "current #s file" card catalogue.)

Subject (Code Number) Binders

II by book
III by scientific article
IV by non-scientific article

all the materials in the specific category (book, article etc) listed by the subject codes they have been referenced to.

eg see enclosure 3. the acquisition number (file #) is #2588 so this is a scientific article (>2000).
→ in the subject binder of scientific articles, 2588 would appear listed under key code (subject) headings 1, 21, 81

IOEH Library

ENCLOSURE #III

Subscription most begin 1966.

JOURNALS' HOLDING LIST

all volumes on hand to be found arranged alphabetically by title on library shelves.

American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal (U.S.A.)
American Review of Respiratory Disease (U.S.A.)
Annals of Occupational Hygiene (UNITED KINGDOM)
Archives Belges de Médecine Sociale, Hygiène, Médecine du Travail, Légale (BELGIUM)
Archives des Maladies Professionnelles de Médecine du Travail et Sécurité Sociale (FRANCE)
Archives of Environmental Health (U.S.A.)
***Arhiv Za Higijenu Rada I Toksikologiju (YUGOSLAVIA)
Asbestos (Magazine)(U.S.A.)
** Brazilian Journal of Occupational Health (BRAZIL)
British Journal of Industrial Medicine (UNITED KINGDOM)
Bulletin of the American College of Chest Physicians (U.S.A.)
Cahiers de Notes Documentaires (Les) (FRANCE)
Canadian Medical Association Journal
Casopis Lekaru Ceskych (CZECHOSLOVAKIA)
Chest - American College of Chest Physicians (U.S.A.)
CIS - International Occupational Safety & Health Information Centre (SWITZERLAND)
Egyptian Journal of Occupational Medicine (EGYPT)
Environmental Health Perspectives (U.S.A.)
Environmental Research (U.S.A.)
Gigiena I Sanitarija (U.S.S.R.)
Gigiena Truda I Professional'Nye Zabolevaniya (U.S.S.R.)
*** Indian Journal of Industrial Medicine (INDIA)
-- Indian Journal of Occupational Health (INDIA)
* Industrial Health (JAPAN)
Industrial Hygiene Digest (U.S.A.)
Industrial Hygiene News Report (U.S.A.)
Institut d'Hygiène des Mines (Bulletin & Revue) (BELGIUM)
International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health (GERMANY)

they do not have Industrial Medicine but are also looking for it. .../2

Japanese Journal of Industrial Health (JAPAN)
Journal of Environmental Pathology and Toxicology (U.S.A.)
Journal of Irreproducible Results (The) (U.S.A.)
Journal of Occupational Medicine (U.S.A.)
Journal of the Society of Occupational Medicine (UNITED KINGDOM)
- Journal of Science of Labour (JAPAN)
* Medicina del Lavoro (ITALY)
- Medicina y Seguridad del Trabajo (SPAIN)
Medycyna Pracy (POLAND)
New England Journal of Medicine (U.S.A.)
Pracovni Lekarstvi (CZECHOSLOVAKIA)
Scandinavian Journal of Work, Environment & Health (FINLAND)
The Sciences (U.S.A.)
Scientific American (U.S.A.)
L'Union Médicale (Canada)
Zentralblatt fur Arbeitsmedizin und Arbeitsschutz (GERMANY)

December 1979

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* only 1st issue of 1979 received

** subscription for 1980 will not be renewed

*** only 1st issue of 1978 received

\- no issue received for 1979

-- only 2 issues received for 1979 (Jan. and Feb.-Mar.)

LIST OF CODE NUMBERS USED IN IOEH DOCUMENTATION

(SUBJECT NUMBERS)

Enclosure II, 1.

Roman Numeral Heading Numbers are unimportant here

I. Environmental Data

0. Exposure to asbestos - occupational
1. Exposure to asbestos - non-occupational
2. Exposure classified as to magnitude or type
3. Dust Counts
4. Dust Control
5. Cancerogenetic hydrocarbons acting with asbestos
6. Metals acting with asbestos
7. Solvents acting with asbestos
8. Other impurities or compounds acting with asbestos
9. Exposure to asbestos by ingestion

II. Clinical Data on Asbestosis

10. Manifest clinical asbestosis
11. Findings in physical examination
12. Radiological findings
13. Pulmonary function findings
14. Classification
15. Differential diagnosis
16. Women and asbestosis
17. Occupational health care of patients with asbestosis

III. Pathological Data

20. Anatomical findings in asbestosis
21. Ferruginous bodies in the lungs
22. Ferruginous bodies in sputum
23. Ferruginous bodies in lymph nodes
24. Ferruginous bodies elsewhere in the body
25. Asbestos fibres and dust in the lungs
26. Asbestos fibres and dust in sputum
27. Asbestos fibres and dust in lymph nodes
28. Asbestos fibres and dust elsewhere in the body
29. Fate of asbestos fibre
120. Phagocytosis of asbestos

IV. Complications Other than Tumor

30. Pleural changes other than calcification or tumor
31. Calcification of the pleura
32. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
33. Pulmonary hypertension and cor pulmonale
34. Other complications

V. Tumors

36. Cancer of the lung
37. Cancer elsewhere
38. Mesothelioma
39. Other tumors (benign and malignant)

VI. **Other Lung Diseases**

40. Silicosis (incl. studies of silica dust)
41. Fibrosis other than pneumoconiotic
42. Tuberculosis (incl. studies of tubercle bacilli)

VII. **Kinds of Asbestos**

43. Chrysotile

Amphiboles

44. Crocidolite
45. Amosite
46. Tremolite
47. Actinolite
48. Anthophyllite

VIII. **Other Minerals** (beside silica and asbestos)

50. Talc
51. Augit
52. Fiberglass
53. Other

IX. 56. **Physical and Chemical Properties and Identification of Fibres**

X. 59. **Volumes of Production and Consumption of Asbestos**

XI. **Occupations with Asbestos Hazard**

60. Mining and Milling asbestos
61. Textile (asbestos) industry
62. Processing asbestos industry other than textile (asbestos-cement)
63. Insulation work with asbestos (incl. construction and shipbuilding)
64. Other occupations with asbestos hazard

XII. 69. **Legal Aspects of Asbestos Problem** (incl. compensation)

XIII. **Form of Study**

70. Epidemiological study
71. Clinical cases (incl. their pathological descriptions)
72. Experiments in animals including tissue culture studies
73. Pathological anatomical studies (without clinical part)
74. Electron-microscopic studies
75. Immunological studies
76. Methods and techniques

XIV. Countries Where Study Was Done

80. United States of America

81. Canada

82. United Kingdom

83. South Africa

84. Finland

85. Italy

86. Germany

87. France

88. Others

89. Japan

180. U. S. S. R.

XV. 90. General Survey of the Problems of Asbestos and Health

91. Other items not related to asbestos

IOEH current numbers :

0001 - 999 books

1001 - 2000 non-scientific articles

2001 - scientific articles