FILE NAME: Raybestos-Manhattan (RBM)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Testing Cloth for Release of Airborne Fibres

Raybestos-Manhattan

Manheim

DIVISION and LOCATION

TO: Mr. J. H. Marsh - Bridgeport

DATE: March 7, 1973

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 207

SUBJECT: Testing Asbestos Cloth for Release of Airborne Fibres

Recently we talked on the telephone concerning the testing of asbestos cloth to determine the amount of airborne dust that may be released during handling and installation or fabricatin of cloth used to wrap thermal installation on piping. I believe I suggested having such tests performed by the same outfit that did the tests on the asbestos containing coats at the time this was being investigated by FDA. This probably was not a very good suggestion, inasmuch as my file indicates this test was performed by NIOSH, and I doubt that we would want to get them involved in investigation of our pipe covering materials.

At a recent ATI meeting there was considerable discussion by the Asbestos Advisory Committee concerning similar tests to determine the amount of fibre released during normal use of asbestos safety clothing. It was recommended that McGill University might be a suitable place to have such tests conducted. It was also suggested that the Abrado-Flex machine developed by the late Dr. Shaw while he was involved with research for ATI might be used for this purpose. However, Chairman Echerd of the ATI Technical Committee felt that his company (H. K. Porter) had developed a superior device for flexing fabrics that he thought would be better suited for testing for airborne fibre release.

Since I was not at this meeting, I don't know what conclusions were made regarding further action, but I know it was agreed that a third party, such as McGill, should certify the tests rather than ATI or any of the manufacturers involved. Perhaps Milt Scowcroft can fill you in on the latest ATI thinking or activities on this.

I. H. Weaver
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