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INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER



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Supervisors, Plant
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Use of Asbestos Gloves

Results from a research study done at the University of Wisconsin and published in the December 1981 issue of the AIHA Journal indicate that the use of asbestos gloves can cause significant exposures to asbestos fibers. A number of breathing zone sample results from workplaces exceeded the proposed time weighted average concentration limit of 0.1 fibers per cubic centimeter (cc), and one sample exceeded the present TLV of 2 fibers per cc. In addition, hand contamination measurements revealed many loose fibers on hands and work surfaces that could easily become air-borne and/or ingested. Badly worn gloves generated higher fiber counts, as would be expected.

We have advised our Corporate Purchasing Department of this problem, and they are investigating appropriate substitutes for asbestos gloves. You will hear from them shortly.

If asbestos protective clothing is being used in your operation, it is recommended that substitutes be found. Please advise if you have problems finding substitute materials for such clothing.

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