

CANADIAN JOHNS-MANVILLE CO. LIMITED ✓

ASBESTOS FIBRE DIVISION

P.O. BOX 1500, ASBESTOS, QUE., TELEPHONE 879-3431



March 21, 1969.

Messrs. W. V. Oughtred  
P. P. Smith  
J. R. M. Hutcheson  
J. A. Main  
R. S. Coleman  
R. J. Merrill  
M. J. Messel  
P. A. Filteau

Asbestos Corporation Limited  
Bell Asbestos Mines Limited  
Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd.  
Flinthote Mines Limited  
National Asbestos Mines Ltd.  
Carey-Canadian Mines Ltd.  
Lake Asbestos of Quebec  
Q. A. M. A.

Gentlemen:

Attached is copy of the Industrial Hygienist's report for the period January 20th to March 14th, 1969.

Yours truly,

*J. O. Eby*  
J. O. Eby, Chairman,  
Workmen's Compensation and  
Safety Service Committee

## QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

Montreal Mines, March 14th, 1949.

Mr. J.O. Eby, Chairman,  
Workmen's Compensation and  
Safety Service Committee,  
Quebec Asbestos Mining Association,  
c/o Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd.,  
P.O. Box 1800,  
Asbestos, P.Q.

Re: Industrial Hygienist's Report from  
January 20th to March 14th, 1949.

Dear Sir:-

Since my last report to the Association, five (5) mines were visited. Three dust surveys were conducted at three different mines where a total of seventy (70) Busch & Lomb Automatic Dust Counter readings were recorded. Twenty-five (25) Midgut Dwyfinger dust samples were also collected for analysis at the time of these dust surveys. Two sound level studies were conducted during this period and nineteen (19) noise level readings, complete with octave-band analysis of the overall noises, were recorded. A few days were spent in Montreal where I was invited to give a lecture on the Busch & Lomb Automatic Dust Counter and other sampling apparatus at McGill University.

The dust survey reports, with recommendations, were prepared and sent to the companies concerned. The sound level studies reports, with recommendations, were also prepared and sent, one to the company concerned and the second one to Mr. J.O. Eby, Chairman.

The following will give you the mines visited, the dates and the purpose of each visit, and also how some of my time was spent

during the last two months:

January 20th to January 22nd

These few days were spent on writing a report following the dust survey conducted, at the Jeffrey mine of the Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd., in the Wheelabrator room on the 12th floor of No 5 mill, during the previous period.

January 27th and January 28th

During these two days, a visit was made at the Jeffrey mine of the Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd. The purposes of the visit were first to meet Mr. E. Stevens, Industrial Hygienist, and discuss dust sampling procedures and dust counting techniques. The second day was used to conduct a dust survey in No 5 mill, from the 10th floor down to the 3rd floor. A total of forty-nine (49) Bauwh & Lomb Astromatic Dust Counter concentrations readings, complete with size distributions, were recorded.

January 29th

A noise level study was started in the printing room of the Operations Office of the Asbestos Corporation Limited on that day. Four (4) sound level readings, complete with octave-band analysis of the overall noises, were recorded. For this first sound level survey, no sound-proof material was used on either the ceiling and walls.

January 30th to February 10th

This period of time was used to write a report following the dust survey conducted in No 5 mill of the Jeffrey mine of the Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd. The report, with recommendations, was then sent to the Company.

February 12th

Following the noise level study started in the printing room of the Operations Office of the Asbestos Corporation Limited in January 29th, an other sound level survey was conducted, on that day, but this time

with sound-proof material installed on the ceiling. Four (4) other sound level readings, complete with octave-band analysis of the overall noises, were recorded.

February 12th to February 18th

This period of time was spent on office work. A memo was also prepared for Mr. J.C. Eby, Chairman, on standard impinger sampling and counting technique, on the proposed membrane filter method and on the proposed threshold limit values for asbestos dust.

February 19th

A third visit was made to the Operations Office of the Asbestos Corporation Limited, to conduct an other sound level survey in the printing room. This time, a different sound-proof material had been installed on the ceiling of the room. Four (4) other sound level readings, complete with octave-band analysis of the overall noises, were recorded.

February 20th

A visit was made at the King-Bever mine of the Asbestos Corporation Limited to start a dust survey in the surface plant. The dust survey was started in the mill where a total of twenty-one (21) dust concentrations readings, complete with size distributions, were recorded with the Bensch & Lomb Automatic dust Counter.

February 25th to February 27th

Upon request from Mr. G. Gibbs, B.Sc., Department of Epidemiology and Health of McGill University, I went to Montreal on February 25th to give a lecture on the Bensch & Lomb Automatic Dust Counter and other dust sampling methods. Due to the snow storm at the time, I had to stay in the Montreal area until Thursday, February 27th. (McGill University paid for the expenses).

March 3rd

A last sound level survey was conducted in the printing

room of the Operations Office of the Asbestos Corporation Limited on that day. This time, sound-proof materials had been installed on the ceiling and on the walls of the room. Four (4) other sound level readings, complete with octave-band analysis of the overall noise, were recorded.

March 4th

A visit was made at the Lake Asbestos mine to meet Mr. Wilfrid Pelletier, Safety Supervisor, on that day. The purpose of the visit was to compare the results of our two Bausch & Lomb Automatic Noise Counters and also to find a way to clean the air intake of the instruments.

March 5th

This day was used to write a report following the noise level study conducted in the printing room of the Operations Office of the Asbestos Corporation Limited. The report, with recommendations, was then sent to Mr. Burton, responsible of the printing room in the drafting department.

March 6th and March 7th

A noise level study was conducted on "Auto-Higher" in relation to noise exposure by the industry's employees who practice this sport during their off hours. It was suspected that many of the employees were exposed to higher noise levels during their off hours than during their working hours at the mines. As for the information of the members of our Association, a noise level study was conducted on "Auto-Jets", which are most in use in this part of the Province. A report was prepared and sent to Mr. J.O. Roy, Chairman.

March 10th to March 14th

A dust survey was conducted at the Flintville mine on March 10th and 11th. A total of twenty-five (25) Midget Impinger dust samples were collected for analysis. The dust samples were collected in the ship-way and primary crusher building, dryer building, dry rock storage building

ding and in the mill. Some dust samples collected were counted during this period.

#### RESULTS:

##### Dust Surveys

The Busch & Lomb Automatic Dust Counter and the Midget Impinger were both used during this period to conduct dust surveys. During the cold season, I found out that the Busch & Lomb Dust Counter can be used only in relatively warm and dry buildings. If we use the instrument in cold and humid buildings, the air intake to the instrument tends to be blocked by humid dust, as the intake air hole is only about 0.008 inches in diameter. It was also found that in cold buildings, the instrument does not have a chance to warm up sufficiently and that the batteries also tends to run down more quickly than in warm buildings.

##### Sound Level Study

The sound level study conducted on the "Geo-Jets" showed that these machines are very noisy and that repeated exposures to these high noise levels could produce hearing losses for those who practice this sport. The average noise level, in the speech frequencies, was found to be over 100 decibels. The proposed standard, for these frequencies, should not exceed 85 decibels for 5 hours or more exposure per day.

So when faced by a claim for compensation for hearing losses, the personnel department of our mines should make a note of the noise exposure the claimant may have been subjected outside his working hours in the industry. This could include "Auto-Hedges" sport, rifle shooting practice, etc.

Yours very truly,

*Maurice Lachance*  
Maurice Lachance,  
Industrial Hygienist.

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