

After mixing, the raw materials are extruded in the form of a tape which is wound into a coil. The coil is then placed in an oven for initial curing.

Following the initial curing operation, the coils are surface ground and cut to length on band-saws. Depending on customer specifications, the lining may undergo another curing operation.

Finally the linings are drilled with the proper holes, finish ground, inspected, and packaged for shipment.

C. ABK Industrial Bearings

ABK industrial bearings are special wear and heat resistant bearing made by the company. The bearings are made by first impregnating a cloth with various resins and then winding this cloth or hot pressing it to form the product. These bearings are used quite extensively in iron and steel foundries.

SURVEY PROCEDURES

The main purpose of the asbestos dust survey conducted at the plant was to evaluate the asbestos sampling technique currently used by the U.S. Public Health Service. To do this, simultaneous samples were taken (85 pairs on the same side of the man and 23 sets on opposite sides) to check the reproducibility of the asbestos sampling under field conditions with relatively low concentrations. The majority of the sampling was conducted at the same machines in the cutting, grinding and drilling of auto linings for three consecutive days on the first and second shift in order to also supply data on variations of concentration of asbestos with the shift and day of week. The remainder of the samples came from the preforming and hot press areas. A special study was done to determine the effect of heavy background on sample results.

A preliminary industrial hygiene survey of the plant was also conducted to try to evaluate general housekeeping and ventilation systems.

INSPECTION OF THE PLANT

Potential Health Hazards: The major potential health hazards encountered were:

1. Exposure to asbestos dust
2. Exposure to lead from mixing operations