

Memorandum on Plant of Johns-Manville Corp., Supplementing the General Report, "Preliminary Dust Investigation for Asbestos Textile Institute" of June, 1947.

Dust Control Practices

Data from this plant are not included in the tabulation of exhaust rates for cards (page 3, general report) because the single cards would not be comparable and the control of dust in this department is not good, as judged by dust counts. Observations of duct connections on Whitin cards indicate an original exhaust capacity of over 4,000 to 5,000 cfm.

Dust control arrangements in the new Whitin cards diverge from the best practices listed on page 9 (general report) as to items 2, 3, 6 and 7.

The best combination of exhaust for this card would be worked out in the engineering phases of the long-term investigation proposed in the general report (see page 27, I and A).

Recirculation of air from dust collectors has been touched upon above.

The comments on page 13 are pertinent. We do not believe that the efficiency of a burlap dust house is adequate to permit recirculation of air from it back to the workroom as is the present practice. We do not rule out the possibility that safeguards can be devised that will permit the recovery of heat represented thereby.

Medical

The incidence of asbestosis in this plant is comparable to only one other plant (A). The medical problem of diagnosis is complicated in this plant by the fact that many workers have been employed in anthracite coal mines and some show evidence of anthracosis. The panel activity referred to on page 18 should be especially valuable in those circumstances.

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