

FILE NAME: Johns-Manville (JMA)

DATE: 1970 Oct

DOC#: JMA337

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Contract Units - Respirator Policy

E. P. Standel, Jr. - (1)

COMPANY WORN CONTRACT UNITS
RESPIRATOR POLICY

We presently have approximately 900 men working on our jobs. We have a policy regarding use of respirators that includes the following elements:

1. Warning labels on packages.
2. Statement regarding use of Respirators under dust conditions.
3. Guidance given Units on latest respirators considered best for our needs.
4. Sign program on dusty condition jobs.

You will note none of these have controls or reports built in as an implementation. I would like to develop a new overall policy which would be built on an information notice inserted in the weekly pay envelope every three months of every man on our payroll. We summarize each payroll with a Weekly Payroll Summary Report listing name, etc. This could be sent in to us and would then give us an actual record of who received this notice.

The notice which has been reviewed by C. L. Schockler would say:

There are some materials used in your assigned work which display warning labels of possible health hazards if workers are exposed to excessive quantities of dusts.

At times, you may possibly be exposed to these dusts as a result of your activities or other people working near you.

Wear a respirator if dust is created. A U.S. Bureau of Mines approved type of respirator is available from your Johns-Manville for each of your assignments.

There are several reasons:

1. Do you feel it is worth our exposing ourselves to any legal hazard with our present policy?

2. Do you feel the wording is correct legally?

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3. Do you feel that with this program which keeps a record of employees notified and does it regularly, we will be in a better position on any future suits for negligence? Before this is approved, we probably should first consider whether we expect negligence suits on health items. My opinion is that we have a good chance of such suits being taken against us.

4. Any other comments you choose to make.


T. P. WILLIAMS

TPW/cac

cc: R. A. Stapleton
H. M. Ball - 11
C. L. Heckler - 2
llh
chono