

AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE MEETING

There were three papers to be given at this meeting which should have been of interest to the friction materials business. One concerned exposure of turnpike toll booth operators to automotive dust by Diberardinis, Burgess and Lynch. This paper was more concerned with the exposure to carbon monoxide and other gases from the internal combustion engine. This paper was not concerned with asbestos emissions.

Another paper was that concerning observations of two brake lining manufacturing industries by Cowle, Rajhans, and Moore. This paper (for some unknown reason) was scratched from the presentations.

The only paper of direct interest to the friction materials industry was that entitled, "Asbestos Exposure During Brake Lining Maintenance and Repair" by Rohl, Anderson, Nicholson, and Langer. This paper concerned itself with exposure to asbestos during brake relines, primarily in New York city shops. Some of the housekeeping conditions in these shops were deplorable. They are perhaps no worse than in other shops throughout the country. It may be that the brake lining industry can help promote better working conditions for those exposed to asbestos in the field (in the shops that rebuild brake shoes or install and service brakes on vehicles). The use of air hoses for cleaning off brakes is common. Good work practices could be advocated. The dust concentrations during the blowing off of brakes are in excess of the five fibers per cc allowance. There was not sufficient observation using time weighted averages to give complete balance to this paper. The paper was presented in an objective fashion and the question and answer session that followed was also handled objectively. No earth-shaking conclusions were made from this paper. It was obvious, however, that there is a need for better work practices at the re-line and installation level.

ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION (AIA/NA)

In January 1974 Mr. R. H. Mereness of the Asbestos Information Association wrote concerning listing the Friction Materials Standards Institute as an "affiliated association". At that time I indicated to Mr. Mereness that the Institute would be happy to consider itself an "affiliated association". In subsequent correspondence with members of the Board of Directors it was indicated that this was premature. One director indicated that we might be exposing ourselves in an area where we now have a low profile. That is, the friction material manufacturers are not primary offenders like those in the construction field and in textile operations. Affiliation, as such, might move us into the target area. Another objection had to do with the legal status of any so-called affiliation. Mr. Stickles indicated that there might be some objection to our being considered an affiliated organization and we would need more information.

There were several Board members who indicated that we should do whatever we can to support the Asbestos Information Association. In our discussion at the meeting the consensus was that we should reciprocate and support the Asbestos Information Association. However, considering the absentees at the meeting, it was decided not to make any resolution on this subject. It was suggested that this be discussed further at the Board meeting in June.

The Asbestos Study Committee is taking no position as regards being considered an "affiliated association" with the Asbestos Information Association.