



Intra Company

Automotive Assembly Division
Lorain Assembly Plant

November 3, 1972

TO: R. H. Yapp,
Safety & Security Coordinator
Personnel Services Department

SUBJECT: Inquiry of 10/4/72 - Exposure to Asbestos Dust

After reviewing operations and production parts which contain asbestos with Resident Engineering, Technical Control, Process Engineering and Plant Engineering, the following list was compiled. The percentage of time exposed is based on a one-week period.

1. Brake Shoes - Production operators in Passenger system do not come in contact with the shoes. Repairmen in Final Garage do remove cover plate which exposes asbestos shoes on some repairs. Exposure time less than 1% for four (4) employees.
2. Brake Shoes (Commercial) - There are build-up and installation operations which are performed with exposed brake shoes. These operations involve four (4) build-up operators with 100% exposure, four (4) install operators with 100% exposure and two (2) relief operators with approximately 30% exposure. There is no evidence of asbestos dust in connection with these parts. In addition, there are two (2) repairmen in Final Garage who make repairs which do, on occasion, expose asbestos shoes. Exposure time is less than 1%.
3. Commercial & Passenger Heater Housings - No contact with asbestos in either of the production operations. There are five (5) repairmen in the two systems who rework heaters which at times require going into housings. Exposure time less than 1% for each.
4. Commercial Heat Shield - Shield used to form a heat barrier between the exhaust system and the floor pan. The asbestos is shipped in cut to size in cardboard containers. The asbestos is affixed to the metal shield with an adhesive. No cutting or drilling takes place with the part. There is some asbestos dust in the area where the part is used caused by movement in shipping. Two (2) operators with 100% exposure time and two (2) reliefmen with approximately 10% exposure time.
5. Exhaust Gaskets - Passenger and Commercial exhaust gaskets containing asbestos are used in both systems. There are a total of four (4) operators with 100% and four (4) reliefmen with exposure of

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approximately 10%. There is no evidence of asbestos dust in connection with these parts.

6. Powerhouse - The gaskets used for pipe connections in the Powerhouse are asbestos containing parts. Fourteen (14) employees have an exposure time of less than 1%. The material used for pipe coating does not contain asbestos per Plant Engineering personnel.

The only operation of those reviewed that would give any appearance of potential health hazard was the Commercial Heat Shield. Because this appeared to be a potential problem, we asked Libardo LaTorre, Industrial Hygienist, for Central Hygiene to conduct a study of the area. Results of the study, which are attached, indicate there is no problem.

Daniel Obringer
D. P. Obringer,
Safety Engineer

DFO/ejs

Attachments

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