

Houston **ETHYL CORPORATION** *Asbestos*

**INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE**

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

ETCO-599

TO J. G. Burdick, M. D. ADDRESS Houston
FROM Henry M. Taylor ADDRESS New Orleans
SUBJECT Asbestos Fiber Environmental Survey DATE October 18, 1972

This is in response to your request for evaluation of certain asbestos handling procedures (incidental to production and maintenance work effort) at the Houston plant.

SUMMARY:

Concerning potential asbestos hazard, the data collected and displayed in the attached table indicates operator respiratory protection is not necessary during:

1. Asbestos material handling in the stores area;
2. Sodium cell insulag scraping;
3. Sodium cell dismantling;
4. Listing tape application and/or removal.

However, during sodium cell insulag scraping and sodium cell dismantling other particulate levels may at intermittent times become irritating to the operator. Hence, operator use of Bureau of Mines (BOM) approved particulate respirators during these operations is advised.

A BOM approved particulate respirator is recommended adequate protection for the asbestos levels found during band saw operation and TEL still insulation dismantling and cleanup.

EQUIPMENT AND METHOD:

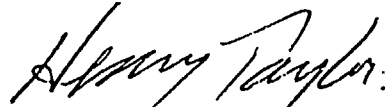
Air conveyed asbestos was collected by personal and environmental sampling upon open face Millipore type AA filters (37 mm, 0.8 μ pore size) using MSA Montair pumps operating at a sampling rate of 2 l/m. The samples were mounted in a high-viscosity solution of membrane filter material for counting. Asbestos fibers were counted at 400 x magnification using phase contrast illumination with a Leitz Labolux microscope. Data handling followed that of generally accepted conservative good practice since standard methods have not as yet been established.

ETH 000007

Asbestos Fiber Environmental
Survey

October 18, 1972

Please let me know if there are any questions pertaining to this
report or relating to asbestos in general.


Henry M. Taylor

HMT/kf
Enclosure

cc: T. C. Coerver
W. E. Rinehart✓

TABLE

Houston Plant, Ethyl Corporation, Asbestos Fiber Survey, September 13 and 14, 1972

Sample Point	Process	No. of * Fibers	TWA **	Operator Respiratory Device
<u>Stores Area:</u>				
1. 4' from floor, below asbestos storage bin	Unloading 6" dia x 3' 1 insulating pipe	0.11	0.014	None
2. Same as No. 1, 4' to oneseide	Same	0.34	0.042	
3. At truck transfer point	Same	0.00		
4. 30' away (blank)	Same	0.00		
5. Floor sweep, bin area	Same	Fibers of respirable size		
<u>Bandsaw, outside:</u>				
6. Operator sample	Cutting asbestos ins- sulation pipe (using vacuum capture system)	2.9	2.9	Particulate respir- ator (BOM)***
7. Environmental sample 30' from No. 6	Same	0.055	0.055	
8. Saw tabletop sample	Same	Fibers of respirable size		
9. Operator sample	Same, modified capture system	8.6	8.6	

* Fibers longer than 5 u/ml, current threshold limit valve is an eight hr TWA of 5 fibers/ml greater than 5 μ in length.

** TWA = time weighted average exposure for an eight-hour work day calculated from actual exposure duration.

*** BOM = Bureau of Mines

<u>Sample Point</u>	<u>Process</u>	<u>No. of Fibers</u>	<u>TWA</u>	<u>Operator Respiratory Device</u>
<u>Sodium area, outside:</u>				
10. Operator sample	Scraping insulag from inside Downs cell	2.4	0.30	Air line respirator (BOM)
11. Ground (floor) cell sample	Same	Fibers of respirable size		
<u>Sodium cell area:</u>				
12. Operator (a) sample	Dismantling cell No. B-39	4.7	0.60	Air line respirator (BOM)
13. Operator (b) sample (50%) Environmental sample (50%)	Same	0.61	0.08	
<u>Sodium area, 1st floor:</u>				
14. Operator sample No. 1 sodium drop leg	Removing and replacing listing tape	0.00		Particulate res- pirator (BOM)
15. Operator sample, maintenance shop	Wrapping new listing tape	0.00		
<u>TEL building:</u>				
16. Operator (a) sample	Removing bottom in- sulation packet, Still No. B-7	3.1	0.96	Air line respirator (BOM)
17. Operator (b) sample	Same	7.8	2.4	

Operator
Respiratory
Device

No. of
Fibers

TWA

Process

Sample Point

TEL building:

18. Environmental sample 10' from tank, 5' from floor	Removing bottom in- sulation packet, Still No. B-7	0.63	2.0	Air line respirator (BOM)
19. Floor sweep	Same	Fibers of respirable size		
20. Operator sample	Cleaning up area	0.85	0.26	
21. Environmental sample	Same as No. 20	0.14	0.043	
22. Same as No. 20	Same as No. 20	1.6	0.50	