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SPRAYED MINERAL FIBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Asbestospray Corporation

January 5, 1967

Mr. George Sherman, Chief
Division of Industrial Safety
Department of Industrial Relations
3460 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90005



Gentlemen:

The Sprayed Mineral Fiber Manufacturers Association has been advised that a notice was issued by the Department of Industrial Safety to Safety Engineers, outlining procedures to follow in the application of sprayed fireproofing materials which contain asbestos. A copy of this inter communication, dated September 21, 1966, on the subject: "Application of Fireproofing", was sent to the Los Angeles Building and Trades Council, it being understood to have resulted from an "investigation" which they requested.

On September 29, 1966, the Los Angeles Building and Trades Council issued a Bulletin to Business Representatives, Affiliated Local Unions and Craft Councils, quoting the inter communication and elaborating further upon the potential health hazard that may exist.

Since all members of the Sprayed Mineral Fiber Manufacturers Association issue detailed instructions to their contractors recommending the use of suitable protective masks by workmen directly involved in the sprayed fireproofing operation, statements concerning this are not questioned.

We should like to inquire, however, concerning the extent of the investigation and the data developed which prompt the cautions that "all other workmen should be kept out of the spraying area," and "As soon as the spraying is completed, require the area to be cleaned up thoroughly before it dries out."

We should like to point out that the Hygienic Guides Series on Asbestos, promulgated by the American Industrial Hygiene Association, establishes the Threshold Limit Value at 5.0 million parts per cubic foot, which represents conditions under which it is believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed day after day through a lifetime of work without adverse effect. We understand that the Federal Government and most State Agencies have accepted this recommended maximum atmospheric concentration.