From : R&D CENTER -401-3X9
WIN : 236-1362
Date : November 18, 1983
Subject: EMERGENCY TEMPORARY STANDARD ON ASBESTOS

To : INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE & SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

MDS - INT: ABRAMS, et al. 1992

On November 4, 1983 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) on Asbestos. The standard, which is effective immediately, is set at 0.5 fibers (longer than 5 microns in length) per cubic centimeter of air as an 8-hour time weighted average. It is one-fourth of the previous standard. By law, a revised permanant standard must be completed by OSHA within six months.

The asbestos standard (29 CFR 1910.1001) is amended by the ETS as follows:

1. Compliance
   The present ETS states that compliance with the reduced exposure limit of 0.5 fibers/cc can be achieved by any combination of engineering controls, work practices and personal protective equipment and devices.

2. Training
   Within thirty (30) days of the effective date (11/4/83) of the ETS, the employer shall institute a training program for all employes exposed to airborne concentrations of asbestos in excess of 0.5 fibers/cc, without regard to the use of respirators and shall insure employe participation.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT WH-305

Discard Date:

The employe shall be informed of the following:

- the health effects associated with asbestos exposure;
- the relationship between asbestos and smoking in producing lung cancer;
- the nature of operations which could result in exposure to asbestos and protective steps to minimize exposure including engineering controls, work practices, respirators, housekeeping and protective clothing;
- the purpose, proper use, fitting and limitations of respirators permitted by the standard; and
- a review of all the provisions contained in 1910.1001.

3. Warning Signs

Signs warning of the health hazards of asbestos shall be displayed at each location where airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers may exceed 0.5 fibers/cc.

Your first responsibility is to conduct an up-to-date air sampling survey before December 4, 1983 on all workers exposed to asbestos to determine if any are exposed to the reduced air concentration. If you have any questions regarding air sampling, methods of compliance, training or proper respirator usage; please contact Corporate Industrial Hygiene. Note that the protection factor for all respirators would be reduced by one-fourth. Therefore, air sampling is needed to determine if respiratory protection in current use is adequate.

The Industrial Hygiene Department has the following aids:

- air sampling equipment for rent;
- asbestos air sampling procedure sheet; and
- an excellent training tape of asbestos entitled: Breathe Easy.

C. W. Bickerstaff

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Corporate Industrial Hygiene

MISS. - IN RE: ABRAMS, et al.