

Dr. J.J. Kolk

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Amhem, December 4th, 1980

Du Pont de Nemours & Company, Inc.
Medical Division
Att. Dr. Bruce W. Karrh
WILMINGTON, Delaware, 19898
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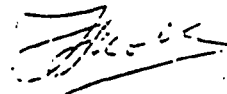
Dear Colleague,

In Kirk-Othmer: Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology - 3rd Ed. Vol 3 (1978 page 240), I read that, quote - For Nomex, and especially for Kevlar, as with any fine, fibrous material, inhalation of the "fly" generated in certain textile handling operations should be avoided. Because of this unusual high strength and cutting resistance, caution should be exercised in splicing, handling or cutting Kevlar - unquote.

As I am asked for advice in handling these kind of fibers, I would ask you whether you could send me in more detail some information about which hazard could be expected when the proper precautions should not be taken, in what way and to what extent is Kevlar comparable with fibrous materials like glass fiber, rock wool or asbestos in relationship to length and diameters of the material? Are there any animal experiments performed by Du Pont or by other laboratories or institutes?

Thanking you in advance for your answer,

Yours sincerely,



Dr. J.J. Kolk

(Occupational medical officer).

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