FILE NAME: Georgia Pacific (GP)

DATE: 1971 July 27

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Mica-Asbestos Controls

GEORGIA-PACIFIC

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

DATE: July 27, 1971

TO: *See Below

LOCATION:

FROM: M. F. Fink

LOCATION: Portland

SUBJECT: MICA-ASBESTOS CONTROLS

Upon reviewing the Occupational Health and Safety (OSHA) Standards, we note a change in the Threshhold Limits as regards mica. It had been established that mica containing 5% or less of free silica (SiO2) rated as nuisance dust, limited to 50 M.P.P.C.F. The new Hazard Control Act specifies that there shall be a conversion factor based on the percent of free silica and Threshhold Limits shall be reduced accordingly. The Threshhold Limits value for mineral dusts as adopted by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists is 250/% SiO2 + 5. Mineral dust containing 2.5% free silica would be limited to 33.4 M.P.P.C.F. instead of 50 M.P.P.C.F.

When placing a purchase order for mica request an analysis of the product especially the free silica content. Do not confuse combined silica with free silica. The analysis will indicate percentages of combined and free silica.

The problem will be created when the employee empties the sacks of mica into the mixer or blender. He and other employees in the area shall wear dust respirators. We recommend the "Dustfoe 66" obtainable from Mine Safety Appliance. It gives maximum protection against toxic dusts, to the permissable limits of lead, plus fibrosis dusts.

Asbestos: We have a similar problem with asbestos, that is when the employee empties the material into the mixer. No Threshhold Limits have been established for fibrous asbestos. This is the raw material that is added to the batch or mix. We must take every precaution to eliminate the hazard and to protect the employee.

The "Dustfoe 66" is recommended for respiratory protection. The medical profession and hygienists have stated that exposure to asbestos dusts are harmful as the respiratory system cannot expel the dusts. The particles lodge in the lungs and keeps building up and asbestosis results from the exposure and breathing of these dusts. It shall be mandatory that the employee or employees handling the bags or containers of asbestos wear respirators.

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT GP-104

Mica and asbestos are included in the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, (OSHA). The inspector will review rules and regulations pertaining to safe handling and preventive measures. The procedures referred to in this letter shall be adopted and enforced.

M. F. P.

MFP/ab

Mr. K. W. Brown - Acme THIS COPY FOR
Mr. J. D. Rauch - Akron, N. Y.
Mr. P. A. Jackson - Chicago
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cc: All Plant Managers (except Canadian)
Mr. G. E. Wilson
Mr. E. B. Hollingsworth
Mr. T. W. Richards
Mr. J. W. Hart
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