

Recommendations:

1. As a matter of good practice, it would be desirable to improve the storage and handling procedure for the Litharge used at the dry compounding line. Currently, this Litharge is stored in an open container and some dust is disseminated in the air when the material is handled.
2. The actual positioning of the weigh hopper is important as regards dust control. This is particularly true at the final weigh position where bagged material is added. This operation should be reviewed and the best possible work practice used.
3. Improve the enclosure around the No.1 dry line unloading station on the 1st floor so the dust generated at the final dumping position will be more adequately controlled.

Discussion:

The operator weighing the asbestos into the weigh hoppers appeared to be performing his job quite adequately and the air exhaust system provided at the weighing station appeared to control the dust adequately. This was confirmed by asbestos dust sample No.#5.

The breathing zone sample for lead of the operator compounding on the dry line was obtained on the morning of November 2, 1962, and was taken during one complete cycle of the compounding weigh procedures. It was noted that the Litharge used in the compound being made up was stored in a fibre drum and dust was produced when the material was removed from the drum. This may have accounted for the high lead concentrations, but it does not seem likely.

The weigh hopper appeared to have adequate control, except in one or two instances when considerable dust was produced. In discussing this matter with the plant engineer, it was thought that this dust was being controlled as adequately as possible; however, the dust was simply of such a fine nature as to be almost uncontrollable. Perhaps with some re-design of the exhaust hood system at these locations, this dust control could also be improved.

At the first floor dumping area, it was found that the No.1 dry line loading station was not as well enclosed as it could have been. It appeared that sides could be added to the enclosure and the overhead opening reduced by a foot or more. This would allow the present exhaust system to better control the dust.

Book Press Pre-Form:Conclusions:

1. There is a marginal exposure to airborne lead at the book press pre-forming machines in the book press pre-form department.
2. The airborne dust at this operation is visible and the plans for the exhaust ventilation of these operations should be completed.