

FILE NAME: Goodyear (GY)

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DIVISION OF SAFETY AND HYGIENE
February 13, 1949

James H. Fluke, Superintendent
Division of Safety and Hygiene
Columbus, Ohio

In re: Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Plant #1
Akron, Ohio

SURVEY OF DUST CONDITIONS IN PLANT #1, AKRON

1. On February 15, 1949 a visit was made to the above named company's #1 plant to check conditions under which their employees work.
2. Contact was made with J. T. Kidney, Safety Director; Bob Fickens, Assistant Safety Director; and J. D. Tremelin, Student Engineer.
3. This company manufactures tires in the portion of the plant visited.
4. As this is one of a series of surveys to be made at the above named company's plant, no recommendations will be made regarding the conditions until all of the surveys are completed.
5. Several different types of material are handled in the compounding of the rubber and the fabrication of the tires. Several of these might be harmful although many are known to be inert.
6. Four dust counts were taken on the date of this visit as follows:

A. Rubber Compounding Department, Plant #1, Building #11

A midjet impinger was set up in an area where men were cutting and weighing rubber. The rubber sheet was coated with soapstone or talc. The impinger was set at the center of three scales at about the breathing level and approximately 18" from the nostrils of the man working at the scale. The man takes a sheet of rubber, puts it on the scale, uses a heavy knife to cut various amounts off until he has the desired weight. Then he removes the rubber from the scale and throws it into a batch box.

The sample taken in this area contained 3.2 million particles of dust per cubic foot of air. One window was open about 10' from the point where the impinger was set up. Most of the dust in this portion of the plant would be talc or soapstone.

B. Sifting Room

A midjet impinger was set up so as to obtain a general sample of the dust in the room where a man was dumping powdered sulphur into a Rotax screen. The man puts a 100 pound bag of the sulphur on a ledge at the charging point. He then cuts a wide opening in the side of the bag and slowly dumps its contents into the hopper. The Rotax screen is operating at the time. The screened material is then dumped into a cart located over the screen. This machine has an exhaust located above and one to the back. This was in operation at the time the writer was present. One window was open about 10' from the screen and about the same distance from the impinger. Air was being pulled into the room by natural drafts.

The sample taken in this area contained 6.1 million particles of dust per cubic foot of air. It is believed that most of the dust in this room at the time would be sulphur.

C. Tire Dusting Area (Paint Line)

A midjet impinger was set up at about the breathing level and directly in front of two men who were dusting talc or soapstone on the outside of tires and spraying a liquid material containing talc or soapstone on the inside of tire casings. The men were working at the third machine from the point where the conveyor entered the room. The casing was removed from the conveyor and set on a spindle so that it would revolve while the dry talc was being wiped on the outside. One man used a piece

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of sheepskin which was dipped into the talc and then held on the outside of the casing. The other man used the spray gun to coat the inside at the same time.

There is an exhaust hooked up near the talc box so that it removes a greater portion of the talc stirred into the atmosphere at the time the men dip the piece of sheepskin into the box.

The sample taken in this area contained 29.6 million particles of dust per cubic foot of air.

The window was open about 10' from the machine. The air movement was into the building.

D. Fl Tube Machine - 5th Floor

A midge impinger was set up at the breathing level and about 13' from a man transferring tubes from the extruding machine belt to a belt leading to the applicator. This man also inspects the tube, setting any rejects to one side on a table. His job designation is "lay-off man on fl machine".

The sample taken at this point contained 5.2 million particles of dust per cubic foot of air.

Two windows were open about 8' from the point where the impinger was set. The air movement at the time was into the building.

The dust in this area would be primarily talc or soapstone which emanates from the inside of the tube, as a coating of talc is sprayed inside of the tube at the time of extrusion.

7. Comments and recommendations will be reserved as previously stated.

Respectfully submitted

LESTER H. MERRITT
SAFETY ADVISOR

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