

FILE NAME: Asbestos Cement Pipe and Sheet (ACPS)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter from BC with References on Hazards of Cutting A-C Products

TO: John Gordon and Luisa Formato

Feb. 7, 1997

RE: More Refs on Hazards of Cutting A-C Products

1. The ILO publication, 1953, **Third International Conference of Experts on Pneumoconiosis**, reporting the 1950 conference in Sydney, contains sections on national laws including that of Italy, 1943, at p. 244 (Vol. 1) noting on 247 that compensation for asbestosis was allowed for "processing of asbestos-cement."
2. Elmes et al. report "Diffuse Mesothelioma of the Pleura" **Br Med J** 1: 350, 1965, includes expression of concern about corrugated roofing that is cut in the building trade.
3. T & N/Turner Brothers Asbestos correspondence says that the contractors cutting A-C sheets do not come under the U.K. asbestos regs unless sawing of such materials dry takes place for more than 8 hours per week. T & N goes on to say the insurance coverage for such employers, for asbestosis risk, is nonetheless quite expensive. (1948) Turner Bros. Asbestos also said they had "standard instructions" that "if asbestos-cement sheets are cut in an enclosed space they must first be damped."
4. As Britain moved to finalize shipyard regs in 1958-1960, T & N men (Turner's Asbestos Cement, in particular) noted that asbestos products cut with power saws were going to be subject to regulation in shipyards. The 1960 regs did require respirators for "cutting of material containing asbestos by means of portable power driven saws" and forbade the employment of young persons for that work.
5. Asbestosis Research Council's "Recommended Code of Practice" for machining asbestos-cement boards recommended safeguards dust extraction or respiratory protection (even for hand cutting and drilling), as well as keeping floors free of dust and damping the material if possible. (1967) Hardie's and the South Pacific Asbestos Assn. should have gotten copies of that, I seem to recall Hardies as having some kind of membership in the ARC. These are also from Chase discovery of T & N.
6. I have "Asbestos Cement Products", AIA Health and Safety Publication Recommended Control Procedure No. 2 (RCP2), undated, that pictures dust extraction hosing on a power saw. From the Asbestos International Assn. in London, the federation of asbestos industry trade associations worldwide.

Copies of 3-6 are being mailed to you.

I see much "new" corporate knowledge stuff in your Actual Knowledge submission to the court on Hardies in this case. If you can mail me these exhibits, at least the ones that are not very thick, I would like to have them and review them before the trial.

Barry