

August 25, 1964

Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
Box 59
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania

Attention: Mr. H. J. Baker
Personnel Manager

Gentlemen:

A survey was conducted on June 9 and 10, 1964 to evaluate employees' exposure to asbestos and silica dusts. In view of our findings, the following recommendations are made. Recommendations Nos. 1, 2 and 5 should be effected upon the receipt of this report; No. 4 within 60 days; and No. 3 within 30 days.

1. Establish a housekeeping program to remove settled dust from the asbestos insulation manufacturing area. (Vacuum methods are preferred.)
2. Establish a weekly maintenance program to insure that exhaust and material handling systems are kept free of leaks and are operated at maximum efficiencies.
3. Enclose the storage bin and exhaust air to the outside in such a manner that there will not be an air pollution problem.
4. Lower the hoods at the building machines, at the feeding machines, and at the storage bin to a position closer to the source of contamination.
5. Provide operators with respirators, approved by the U. S. Bureau of Mines for protection against pneumoconiosis-producing dusts, to be worn while sawing 24-inch pipe insulation.
6. Establish a program of annual chest X-ray examinations for all employees exposed to asbestos and silica dusts.

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Pgh. Corning Corp., Port Allegany

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August 25, 1964

We enclose our Hygiene Information Guide entitled "Asbestos," our
booklet entitled "Dust," Article 432 as amended, and the report of survey.

Sincerely yours,

Jan Lisben, M.D., Director
Division of Occupational Health

Enclosures (4)

JL:PC:gn

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July 17, 1964

SUBJECT

Report of Survey
Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
Fort Allegheny, Pennsylvania

TO

Jim Lieber, M.D., Director
Division of Occupational Health

Through:

E. J. Baier, Chief
Industrial Hygiene
Section

FROM

Paul Gronka *P.G.*
Regional Industrial Hygienist
Region II

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Please review and comment.

1. All exhaust systems have been over-designed according to plant management.
2. Personnel get annual chest x-rays.
3. Plant recirculating air at storage bin.
4. Company to install another line of builders.
5. They are also contemplating installation of new sawing equipment designed to handle any size pipe.
6. Mechanization including complete enclosure for removal of ground scrap from storage bin supplying the feeding machines is contemplated.
7. Once manufacturing operations level out, production of scrap should be much less. We will keep this in mind upon reinspection. Perhaps in the near future they can discard scrap rather than grind it up, storing it and recirculating air.
8. Note recommendation No. 3. This matter was discussed with Jack Knauber on the phone. I believe the company will enclose and exhaust to outside.

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Health

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Report of Survey

Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
P.O. Box 39
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania

Following a plant inspection, a survey was conducted June 9 and 10, 1964, to evaluate employees' exposure to asbestos and silica dusts. The survey was conducted with the cooperation of Mr. Howard J. Baker, personnel manager.

DETAILED FINDINGS

This plant manufactures glass, polyurethane foam and asbestos products. The survey was limited to the manufacture of asbestos pipe insulation.

Asbestos fiber and ground scrap are metered into a belt conveyor system which transfers the mixture to a pneumatic conveying system. Asbestos delivered to the building machines by the pneumatic system is removed from the air stream by cyclones. The mixture is deposited on belt conveyors within the building machine enclosures and the conveying air is returned into the pneumatic system. While moving on the conveyors asbestos is automatically sprayed with sodium silicate. As the asbestos emerges from the building machine enclosure it is rolled onto steel cylinders until the desired thickness is obtained. The outside surface is then rolled in a clay dip, the steel cylinder removed, and the piece transferred to a drying oven.

Dried pieces are placed on a conveyor, cut to the proper length and then halved lengthwise by vertical band saws. The finished insulation is inspected at the take-off end of the conveyor system, automatically tied and packaged.

Scrap (pieces of asbestos insulation that had been cut-off and pieces that have been rejected) is transferred by a belt conveyor to a grinding machine located adjacent to the sawing device. A high-pressure stream of air, directed perpendicularly into a paddle wheel fan entrains the ground scrap and pneumatically conveys

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it to a storage bin. Since the storage bin is under positive pressure from the pneumatic conveying system, filter bags have been installed at the roof of the bin to relieve pressure and reduce dustiness. Small ducts also connect the storage bin to dust collecting apparatus located outside the plant. These small ducts are not designed to convey air introduced into the bin at the present ventilation rate. This is evidenced by the billowing of the filter material.

Hoods at the conveyor exits of the building machines, above the feeding machines and above the unloading doors of the storage bin, are located too far from the source of contamination to be effective.

Dispersions of dust could be reduced by redesigning the hoods using the principles of enclosure where possible and exhaust slots where feasible. The hoods should be placed as close as possible to the points of dust generation.

Atmospheric samples for dust were collected at operators' breathing levels at various locations through the working area. Impingers containing distilled water and alcohol were used to collect samples. Settled dust samples were collected and analyzed chemically for free silica. The silica dust hazard associated with this operation should be adequately controlled when the asbestos contamination is reduced through completion of recommendations made.

Dust concentrations, while shoveling scrap into carts from the storage bin, numerically exceeded the threshold limit value thirty times. The operator is protected from this exposure by an approved respirator. However, dust from this operation contributes significantly to over-all plant dustiness. The airborne dust, after settling, is easily redispersed into the atmosphere by vibrating equipment and foot and tow-truck traffic. Control of dust at the source, as suggested previously in this report, will eliminate dispersal and facilitate housekeeping.

The building machine operators are also exposed to dust in excess of the threshold limit value. The general air in this area was found to contain 6.3 million particles of dust per cubic foot of air.

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Sawing operations in the finishing and packaging areas are exhaust ventilated. However, sawing 24-inch pipe insulation presents a problem because the system was not designed to handle such large pieces. Until a new saw that will accommodate the larger pieces is placed in use, the operators should be required to wear U. S. Bureau of Mines approved respirators.

Relief of positive pressure through filters at the storage bins constitutes recirculation of air into the work area. Asbestos dust causes lung disease and is also suspected of causing cancer. For these reasons, it is recommended that the filtered air be confined and removed to the outside. This could be accomplished by enclosing the area above the filters and directing air to the outside, in such a manner that it will not create a community air pollution problem. Air recirculation systems must be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Tables of dust concentrations and free silica content of dust follow.

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Health
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Table 1

Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
P. O. Box 39
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania

Location	Dust concentration* (Millions of particles per cubic foot of air)	Remarks
asbestos pipe insulation department	1.5 11.7	Feeding conveyor system, supplying asbestos from burlap bags and from carts
	119.0 169.3	Shoveling ground scraps from the storage bin into carts
	8.3 12.4	Operator's exposure at the building machine
	4.3	General air, main aisle between building machines and office
	22.3	Removing end piece out from 24 inch pipe insulation
	1.3 8.0	Operator's exposure at double saw
	3.8	Take off end of conveyor, tying and inspecting 3 inch pipe insulation
	2.7	Cutting 9 inch pipe insulation
	4.9	Take off end of conveyor, inspecting and tying 9 inch pipe insulation
	2.8	General air near 9 inch pipe insulation take off end of conveyor
	1.0	Saw operator's exposure at insulation

*Threshold limit value for dust containing asbestos based on a 40-hour week exposure;
Five million particles per cubic foot of air.

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Health
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Table 2

Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
P. O. Box 30
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania

Location	Free Silica (per cent)
Sawing area	7
Storage bin	4

Survey by

Paul Gresham
Regional Industrial Hygienist

John Macalita
Sheldon Manning
Industrial Hygienists

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE

TO

FROM

SUBJECT

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2. The second part of the report...

3. The third part of the report...

4. The fourth part of the report...

5. The fifth part of the report...

6. The sixth part of the report...

7. The seventh part of the report...

8. The eighth part of the report...

9. The ninth part of the report...

10. The tenth part of the report...

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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Calculation sheet - and I
went over it line one by line
that they were correct. I
am now being accused of
one being an error.

The mistakes are not
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MIN-1003 REV. 10/62

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

REGION II

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

EMPLOYEES

PROG. MFG. OR SERVICE

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

MALE

Glass products

FIELD ACTIVITY REPORT

FEMALE

DATE 6/9, 10/64

TOTAL

452

PLANT

ADDRESS

Pittsburgh Corning Corp.

Port Allegany

PERSON INTERVIEWED Mr. Harold Baker

TITLE Personnel Manager

PURPOSE: INVEST.; SURVEY; INSPECT.; PRELIM.; F.U.; CONF.; VISIT;

REASON: SELF-INIT.; O.D. REP.; COMPL.; REQUEST; SOURCE

SPECIFIC HAZARD OR CONDITION	WORKERS EXPOSED	RECOMMENDATIONS		ACCOMPLISHED		
		WRITTEN - VERBAL		YES	NO	IN PROG.

SAMPLES COLLECTED _____ TOTAL _____

(NO. & KIND)

DETERM. MADE _____ TOTAL _____

(NO. & KIND)

MEDICAL _____ O.D. REPORTED, NO. & KIND _____

REMARKS An asbestos and silica dust survey was conducted in the High Thermal Insulation Dept. 15 impinge

samples were collected for microscopic determinations of dust counts. 7 membrane filter

samples were collected and sent to Central office for exam. under a phase contrast microscope.

A count of total particulate and fiber counts will be made. P.Gronka; Manning; Masaitis

PUNCH CARD ☒ YES ☐ NO FOLDER ☒ YES ☐ NO

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MIN. 1003 REV. 12-52

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

EMPLOYEES

MALE

FEMALE

TOTAL 520

REGION II

PROD. MFG. OR SERVICE

Glass Products

DATE April 15, 1944

PLANT

FIELD ACTIVITY REPORT

Pittsburgh Corning Corp.

ADDRESS

Port Allegany

PERSON INTERVIEWED Mr. Howard Pakery

TITLE Personnel and Safety Manager

PURPOSE: INVEST.; SURVEY; INSPECT; PRELIM.; F.U.; CONF.; VMT;

REASON: SELF-INIT.; O.D. REP.; COMPL.; REQUEST; SOURCE

SPECIFIC HAZARD OR CONDITION	WORKERS EXPOSED	RECOMMENDATIONS WRITTEN - VERBAL	ACCOMPLISHED		
			YES	NO	IN PROG.

SAMPLES COLLECTED

(NO. & KIND)

TOTAL

DETERM. MADE

(NO. & KIND)

TOTAL

MEDICAL

O.D. REPORTED, NO. & KIND

REMARKS This preliminary survey was made to observe the production of high thermal insulation from asbestos to determine the extent of a survey to be conducted. Arrangements were made for the survey to be done in June.

PUNCH CARD

☒ YES

☐ NO

FOLDER

☒ YES

☐ NO

BY

John B. Massitis

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Health

DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

Report of Survey

Pittsburgh-Corning Corporation
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania

Following arrangements with Mr. H. J. Baker, personnel and safety director, a survey was made in this company to determine employees' exposure to dust at the mold-loading and brick-finishing stations on the foam glass line.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Install baffles to control natural ventilation cross-currents.
2. Notify the Division of Industrial Hygiene upon completion of all changes presently in progress in the foam glass department so that a complete dust survey can be made.

DETAILED FINDINGS

The dust exposure consisted of aluminum oxide, glass, carbon, and miscellaneous solids in the batch mix, and bisque products of the above following firing in the manufacture of foam glass insulation. Since the quantities of components vary, no maximum allowable limit has been established for this dust; however, the dust is highly abrasive, and airborne levels should be reduced as much as is practicable in keeping with good engineering principles.

Dispersal of dust resulted from convection currents rising over hot ovens, lengthy drops of mix from hoppers to pans, localized air drafts to cool exposed individuals, general circulating fans, and rapidly moving machinery. In addition, cross-drafts through open windows tended to reduce the control measures at the existing exhaust hoods.

At the time of the survey, all operations were being exhaust ventilated into a single collector which created an imbalance resulting in a reduction of "reach" at certain hoods. The No. 1 weight hopper was further contaminated because a test run, which involved hand loading of buckets into an overhead crane

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caused a spill of dust into the area. Cross-drafts through open windows caused the enclosed and exhaust ventilated trimmer to be contaminated with airborne dust from the facer.

Since separate collectors are to be installed, the existing exhaust ventilation system should be improved, and it is recommended that baffles be installed to prevent drafts across the face of the hoods with subsequent spill. Upon completion of these changes, the Division should be notified so that a complete evaluation of exposure may be made.

A table of dust concentrations follows.

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Health
DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

Table 1

Foam Glass Dust Concentrations

Pittsburgh-Corning Corporation
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania

Location	Dust (millions of particles per cubic foot of air)	Remarks
Mold loading	6.06 6.68	Weight hopper No. 3
	12.12 13.42	Weight hopper No. 1 Bucket loading overhead
Brick finishing	19.16	Facing
	10.71	Trimming

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Survey by -

E. J. Baler
Regional Industrial Hygienist

J. W. Knauer
Asst. Industrial Hygienist

July 2, 1966

FCH:air

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REV. 10-62

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

EMPLOYEES

DATE OF SERVICE

FIELD ACTIVITY REPORT

MALE

FEMALE

TOTAL

Corning Corporation

Fort Allegany, Pennsylvania

PERSON INTERVIEWED Dr. Howard J. Baker

TITLE Personnel Manager

PURPOSE INVEST, SURVEY, INSPECT, PRELIM, P. U. CONF, VISIT

SURVEY

REASON SELF INIT, O.D. REP, COMPL, REQUEST, SOURCE

Self-initiated

SPECIFIC HAZARD OR CONDITION	WORKERS EXPOSED	RECOMMENDATIONS WRITTEN - VERBAL	ACCOMPLISHED		
			YES	NO	IN PROG.
toluene diisocyanate	6				

SAMPLES COLLECTED Atmospheric samples (operator's exposure)

TOTAL 4

DETERM MADE
(NO. & KIND)

TOTAL

MEDICAL

O.D. REPORTED, NO. & KIND

REMARKS A toluene diisocyanate survey was conducted in the Poly-urethane Room Department

S. H. Manning

John E. Kasatis

INDEX CARD

YES

NO

FOLDER

YES

NO

PPG INDUSTRIES CORP.
PORT ALLEGANY, PENNA.

<u>OPERATION</u>	<u>HAZARD</u>	<u>CONTROL MEASURE</u>
MAINTENANCE SHOP Machining	metal dust and fume (mostly iron)	sporadic, gen. ventilation
Welding	O ₃ , NO ₂ , CO, ultraviolet infrared light, iron oxide	sporadic exposure gen. ventilation welders helmets
X-ray diffraction	X-radiation	sporadic exposure, a previous survey indicated low levels in area.

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October 23, 1963

Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
P.O. Box 37
Fort Allegany, Pennsylvania

Attention: Mr. Howard J. Baker
Personnel Manager

Gentlemen:

Following a routine plant inspection, a survey to evaluate employees' exposure to toluene di-isocyanate vapor was conducted in your Fourtane department:

Atmospheric samples were collected in the operators' breathing zone while they were pouring the mix, removing the bun from the foam machine, and cutting the foam with hot wires. Chemical analyses of these samples were negative indicating that the toluene di-isocyanate vapor was controlled during the survey.

In view of the findings, no recommendations are necessary at this time. Because of the high toxicity and the not-infrequent cases of sensitivity, it is suggested that a program of periodic inspection and maintenance be initiated to insure continued control of the operation.

The services of this Division are available to you at all times.

Very truly yours,

Sam Lieben, M.D., Director
Division of Occupational Health

JL:CH:gm

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