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CHAMBERS CONSTRUCTION

ASBESTOS DUST EXPOSURE CONTROL

(Mechanical Aspects)

November 13, 1967

The personnel and environmental sampling done at this site reveals we have reasonable control of the asbestos hazard at this time. The following conclusions and recommendations (if adopted) should establish similar satisfactory environments at any site.

1) Maintain an air sampling program. This is essential to the overall safety endeavor anyway. Respirable dust particles from nearly any source are hazardous and a nuisance.

2) Isolate machine operations in the shops from other shop facilities.

3) All possible dust from cutting and shaping functions must be collected by an effective exhaust and collector system (preferably wet collector). System should not vent off to the atmosphere collected dust particles.

4) Keep shop equipment, ledges, etc. vacuumed clean. Hand cutting should be done so the scrap and dust fall into a container wherever possible.

5) Open cartons with care. Dust is shaken loose from shipping abuse and is a source of hazardous asbestos dust quantities. The carton can be vacuumed prior to opening if deemed necessary by cutting an opening in the carton and introducing a vacuum hose.

6) Asbestos cements must be handled with great care. A system to avoid mishandling and mixing by hand is beneficial. This may be accomplished by a dispensing system or procurement of the cement in small plastic bags where water may be introduced and the cement "kneaded" with no dust exposure.

7) Smoking should be prohibited in shop and when operating tools and equipment performing dust producing work.

8) Severe conditions might dictate the need for respiratory protective devices; however, every attempt should be made to avoid this since it never adequately considers the people in adjacent areas. Furthermore, respiratory protective devices, when required, are admission of a problem. Since the Law accepts even a casual exposure as hazardous, the protective devices should be avoided.

9) Exhaust and ventilation should maintain atmosphere total dust count below the Threshold Limit Values as established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.

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