



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED

PIGMENTS DEPARTMENT

cc: C. I. Smith, Wilmington
R. M. Lombardo, "
E. L. Rodowskas, Newport
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Newport, Delaware
June 17, 1971

Confidential

J. S. Greenier, Manager
Safety and Fire Protection Division
Employee Relations Department
Wilmington

Attention: E. C. Jacobs

Dr. J. A. Zapp
Employee Relations Department
Mackell Laboratories
Medical Research Section
Newark

Attention: E. Eubiak

ASBESTOS DUST INHALATION - NEWPORT PROGRAM

Following the Safety and Fire Protection Division Survey No. 8344 a discussion on health problems lead to a request by Messrs. Jacobs and Eubiak for a copy of our program on avoiding asbestos dust inhalation. Copies of this program are attached.

E. L. Rodowskas, Plant Manager

D. Madron

D. Madron, Assistant Supervisor,
Employee Relations

DM:hr
Attachment

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ASBESTOS DUST INHALATION

May 5 and 6 Conference

Information presented showed asbestos dust inhalation to be a more serious hazard than has previously been realized. High concentrations of asbestos dust occur when handling pipe and tank insulation, particularly removing old insulation. These concentrations can cause Fibrosis (Asbestosis), Pulmonary Carcinoma and Mesothelioma (Cancer) to the lungs or chest cavity. Statistically, cigarette smokers are most susceptible.

Haskell Laboratory is conducting an evaluation of the health problems related to handling asbestos. The evaluation will be complete and published within the next few months. Information presented below is recommended to be used by our plants as a guide in establishing safe work procedures until more complete information is available.

Guidelines are:

- 1 • Asbestos workers should be given a pulmonary function test as part of employee's normal physical examination. Followup testing is recommended every year. The Jones Pulmonary Function Testing Machine is recommended (approximately \$230.00). Additional information can be obtained from Wilmington Medical.
- 2 ✓ • Inform employees working with asbestos insulation of the related health problems. This should be handled without unduly alarming people.
- 3 ✓ • Substitute other types of insulation for asbestos when practical.
- 4 ✓ • Prevent unnecessary dust through careful handling when opening cartons, etc.
- 5 ✓ • Provide a separate room for primary sawing operation. Enclose electric cutoff saws with clear lucite. An industrial type vacuum cleaner attached to the saw with disposable bags for burying is helpful. Clean room with vacuum often, using dust respirator for personal protection.
- 6 • Wet old insulation before removing and wear a MSA Dustose 77 Respirator.

* Five fibers/ML of air is considered to be a safe limit in a work area for 8 hours.

May 5 and 6, 1970 Conference

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- Mix ground asbestos in plastic bags.
- Restrict personnel access to areas where insulators are working.
- Minimize the application of asbestos by spray methods. When spraying is necessary the following requirements should be met:
 - a) The spray area be completely enclosed by tarpaulins,
 - b) Area be vacuum-cleaned after application and,
 - c) The sprayed-on asbestos insulation in air circulation plenums or ducts be coated with a sealant to preclude eroded asbestos from getting into the air of the building.

DFR/ADV:br
Newport Pigments

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