

Asbestos Braided Sleeving - for Lead
Wire Fuses - Case 37940-150

November 2, 1972

J. T. Early

Mr. H. A. Longfellow:

In answer to your query concerning the possibility of replacing the Material Specification 57537 Asbestos Braided Sleeving, I have contacted Mr. W. Maaskant at American Asbestos Textile Corp., Norristown, Pa. In the attached letter he offers an adhesive bonded asbestos braided sleeving. He asserts that this material meets OSHA regulations. If this material is satisfactory to you and the OSHA inspectors it will be the closest substitute for current material. It would need further evaluation for corrosivity, electrical conductivity and other characteristics. This work would be carried out only if you could approve bonded asbestos braided sleeving in principle.

As you explained only about 5×10^5 fuses are made each year on this sixty year old design. The asbestos braided sleeving is around the lead melt wire and this assembly is enclosed in a vulcanized fiber tube. Any other alternate material would require considerable proof testing of the fuses to assure correct operation because the thermal characteristics would be quite different. It would be difficult to find a material other than asbestos sleeving, capable of condensing the lead fumes from the burn out of the melt wire. Even the bonded asbestos would need careful evaluation to determine if it retains the lead fumes.

If you are unable to use the bonded asbestos braided sleeving, then it might be most practical to eliminate the lead wire and its toxic fumes. The sample of bonded asbestos braided sleeving is separately transmitted to you.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

JTE
MH-1518-JTE-meb

J. T. Early

Att.
Maaskant Letter

Copy to
Mr. T. K. Kwei
R. Bulik
R. E. Rider

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