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Inter Office

Personnel and Organization Staff

May 30, 1974

Mr. A. W. Carpenter, Manager
Personnel Services
Glass Division

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

FD-1767

cc D. C. Inderach, M.D.
K. D. Moholic

Subject: Fibrous Talc Exposures at the Lehr Loaders - Departments 6492 and 6482

Because some initial personal samples taken for fibrous talc exposures of employees loading glass on the bending lehrs in the Dearborn Glass Plant exceeded OSHA regulations, improvements were made in the exhaust system and followed by a complete resampling of all employees working on the lehrs on all three shifts.

The results attached in the data sheet indicate that no employee was exposed above the OSHA limit of the five fibers per cubic centimeter of air. On July 1, 1976, however, the exposure limit for an eight hour time-weighted average exposure will be reduced to two fibers per cubic centimeter. At that time, if no improvements are made, approximately half of the employees loading the glass will be exposed above the permissible limit.

The present exposure levels are sufficiently high to assume that some employees are periodically being excessively exposed. It is thus recommended that: (in order of preference)

1. A safer substitute for the present fibrous talc be found.
2. Change the method of applying the talc.

Suggestions: (a) reduce air pressure; (b) change the talc (as is now applied in the "Lucor" glass dusting); and (c) apply talc with a roller or brush

3. Modify local exhaust ventilation.

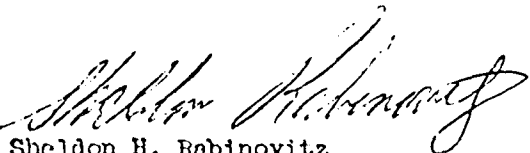
This present ventilation system is not adequate even though improvements have been made because canopy hoods cannot effectively control dust from spray operations. A back drafted enclosure with a permanent top and back with flexible sides to permit movement of the glass panels can efficiently control the fibrous talc exposures.

When sampling reveals significant exposures (but below the time-weighted average limit of five fibers per cubic centimeter), OSHA requires routine sampling, although they are not specific concerning the frequency. It is recommended that yearly samples be taken based on the concentrations observed.

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If future sampling reveals excessive exposures while a permanent solution is being effected, respirators can be used as a temporary solution. However, regulations would require warning signs, employee notification, yearly medical examinations, and other restrictions.

It is important to alter the existing process to avoid the severe restrictions which would be imposed by OSHA which will certainly result if no changes are made by July 1, 1976.



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Attachment

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Data Sheet

Dearborn Glass Plant - Lehr Loaders

Permitted OSHA 8 Hour Time Weighted Average Exposure to Fibrous Talc is.....5 Fibers/
Cubic Centimeter

<u>Employee</u>	<u>S.S. #</u>	<u>Operation</u>	<u>Shift</u>	<u>Fibers/CC</u>
Alvarado	9314	#3 (6492) Sprayer	Day	3.7
Williams	5980	#1 " Helper	"	2.0
Jenkins	4780	#1 " Sprayer	"	1.6
Bizon	8671	#2 " "	"	2.4
Thomas	6169	#2 " Helper	"	1.3
Kendall	0513	#3 " "	"	2.0
Madison	7116	#1 " "	Afternoon	4.0
Meadows	1316	#1 " Sprayer	"	1.6
Smith	1143	#2 " "	"	1.1
Robinson	3006	#2 " Helper	"	2.1
Getts	5064	#3 " Sprayer	"	1.6
Brell	1602	#3 " Helper	"	3.7
Cohen	1071	#1 " Sprayer	Night	2.9
Corry	9193	#3 " "	"	4.3
Edwards	2686	#2 " Helper	"	3.6
Sheats	9301	#1 " "	"	1.9
Cural	4983	#3 " "	"	1.1
Alvarado	9314	" Sprayer	"	(Ruined sample)
Warren	0624	" (6482) "	Day	1.7
Furnanski	5190	" Helper	"	1.7
Baker	0392	" "	Night	0.4
Thomason	2478	" Sprayer	"	4.8
Williams	4188	" "	Afternoon	1.3
Barnes	6407	" Helper	"	3.9

Instrumentation: Samples taken on open face filter holders using .8 micron pore millipore filters as required by OSHA. Air drawn through filter by means of a calibrated MSA portable pump.

Analysis: Filters counted by Environmental Health Labs, Farmington, Michigan