

FILE NAME: Goodyear (GY)

DATE: 1981 July 20

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Investigating Work Conditions for Claimant



The Industrial Commission
Of Ohio
Division Of Safety & Hygiene
246 N. High St., Col. O. 43215

Co
July 20, 1981

Legal Section
Industrial Commission of Ohio
246 N. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attn: Judy Spencer

RE: O.D. 17696-22
Emma L. Mace
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.
Logan, Ohio

Dear Ms. Spencer:

On June 24, 1981, a visit was made to the Goodyear Rubber and Tire Company in Logan, Ohio, to investigate the work environment in which the claimant, Emma Mace, is employed.

Ms. Mace has worked at various jobs in the formation of automobile interiors from July 19, 1967, until the present. Until relatively recently the company used toluene diisocyanate (TDI) in manufacturing the interiors. The process was not enclosed. Division of Safety and Hygiene records of O.D. investigations during the claimant's tenure of employment indicate that at times worker exposure to TDI exceeded the accepted safe limits. The company currently uses methylene bisphenyl isocyanate (MDI) in a "closed" process; low levels of MDI have been measured in the work environment.

Exposure to even extremely low concentrations of isocyanates causes allergic sensitization of the respiratory tract in many individuals. With continued exposure the symptoms are progressive from nocturnal cough to asthmatic bronchitis and, potentially, incapacitating asthmatic attacks.

It should be noted that Ms. Mace received a work "disqualification" because of possible asthma from Dr. Twiggs on November 8, 1973. At that time, she was working on the curing line and had a high probability of exposure to significant concentrations of isocyanates.

Legal Section
Page Two

In conclusion, the claimant's asthmatic bronchitis is very likely to have resulted from workplace exposure to isocyanates.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil E. Marquard

Neil Marquard,
Industrial Hygienist

Robert Crackel

Robert Crackel,
Industrial Hygienist

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20