

ABEX CORPORATION
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SURVEY
AMERICAN BRAKEBLOK DIVISION
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA
OCTOBER 2-6, 1972

PURPOSE

This survey provides coverage of the majority of operations in the plant to determine the extent of asbestos exposure to plant personnel. One additional survey will be scheduled in the near future to complete the evaluation.

Several of the asbestos samples collected from locations processing lead compounds were also selected for analysis to determine airborne lead concentrations at various operations.

SUMMARY

Personal samples were collected at a majority of operations throughout the plant including Strip Finishing, Block Preform, Block Press, Block Finish, Block Inspection & Packaging, Compounding, Book Preform, and Disc Brake Manufacturing. In addition, a personal sample was also taken from the operator of the mobile Tennant sweeper during routine sweeping operations. The sweeper was emptied of collected dust twice during the 66-minute sampling period.

To verify that airborne asbestos levels were below permissible limits, general air samples were collected from work and traffic areas in Shipping and Receiving and in the Machine Shop.

Referring to the results in the Analyses of Air Samples for Asbestos, 24 of the 72 samples reported exceeded the 5 fiber/ml exposure limit. Of these 24 samples, seven (7) were in excess of the 10 fiber ceiling "C" limit.

Although the majority of the exposures were confined to Book Preform, Block Preform, and the Block Finish Department, excursions were also encountered at the automatic preform machines in Disc Brake Manufacturing, and at the controls of the Tennant Sweeper.