

FILE NAME: Firestone (FIRE)

DATE: 1973 Jan 31

DOC#: FIRE025

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Liberty Mutual report to Plant Manager describing Asbestos survey of 11-21-72 & safety recs. [Ex. 891]

BC Notes: Liberty Mutual report to Plant Manager describes Asbestos Survey of 11-21-72, describing hazards at Decatur plant and recommending worker training on safer practices, respirators & safety clothing in handling Asbestine Pigment No. 17

File Decatur

**LIBERTY
MUTUAL**



220 West Monroe St., Chicago, Illinois 60606 • Tel. Financial 8-4400

January 31, 1973

Mr. G. W. Aucott, Plant Manager
The Firestone Tire and Rubber Co.
2500 North 22nd Street
Decatur, Ill. 62525

gwd

Re: Radiological Safety Survey and Asbestos Investigation on
November 21, 1972

RECEIVED

FEB 1 1973

G. L. WILSON
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST

Dear Sir:

Stray radiation measurements were taken on the above date at four self contained x-ray fluorescing units in the Quality Assurance Department. Mr. Gary Burton accompanied me on this survey. This was a follow up survey to evaluate improvements for installations cited in my September 14, 1972 survey. (See report dated October 24th). Also a complete survey was done on the new Picker Industrial X-Ray Unit No. 5.

The follow up measurements for Picker Units Nos. 1, 4 and Westinghouse Unit No. 3 indicate that all openings have been properly shielded and door interlocks have been renewed to work properly. The requirements for an Exempt Protective Installation were being complied with for the afore mentioned X-Ray Units including also Picker X-Ray Unit No. 5. These requirements are defined by the American National Standards Institute Sub-Committee One of Section Committee Z-54 (NBS-Handbook 93).

In Department #561 - Cement house, we investigated the use of a dry powder pigment which was indicated to contain asbestos. The procedure was that one man used a hand scoop to take 16½ pounds of Asbestine Pigment No. 17 from a bulk bin to a plastic bag on weigh scales. This is done two or three times per shift. There is no local exhaust system at the bulk bin or weigh scales. The bin is filled with 5 - 50 lb bags of Pigment No. 17 every two or three days. The following safety controls were discussed to prevent a possible employee exposure to airborne asbestos dust:

1. The employee exposed should be instructed and supervised on how to hand fill the plastic bag with pigment so that airborne dust is controlled. It appears that if caution is used no dust exposure will result.

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FEB 8 - 1973

DR. J. H. BALLOU

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2. When the bulk bin is filled with 50 lb. bags the employee should be provided with a fresh air respirator and protective clothing such as gloves and coveralls.
3. The empty bags of Asbestine Pigment No. 17 should be put in a closed container identified for waste disposal.

Sincerely Yours,



Ronald A. Stolberg
Industrial Hygienist
Loss Prevention Department

RAS/eh

cc: Mr. F. C. Becker, Industrial Relations Manager
Mr. G. L. Burton, Safety Director
Mr. R. C. Wall, Manager - Corporate Insurance Dept.
Mr. M. R. Batche - Manager - Corporate Safety
Dr. L. A. Ballou, Medical Director