



PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

FD-1714

file

Inter Office

Personnel and Organization Staff

16 November 1983

Mr. O. V. Sagripanti
Plant Engineering
Research & Engineering Area

cc S. P. Pant, M.D.
R. M. Quarles

Subject: Asbestos Containing Insulation---Body Engineering Building

During a recent investigation of a dust fallout complaint at the Plastics Laboratory on the Body Tooling Aids & Prototype Department, I obtained a sample of the insulation in use on the fan station supplying this laboratory. Because we have recently found asbestos in insulating materials used at other buildings in the Research & Engineering area, this sample was analyzed for asbestos content.

The sample taken was found to contain asbestos; therefore, employees with potential exposure such as pipefitters, pipecoverers, and heating-cooling engineers or technicians should be made aware that this fan station is covered with asbestos insulation. Further, other fan station and insulated surfaces in the Body Engineering Building should be presumed to contain asbestos until proven otherwise.

Excessive exposure to airborne asbestos fiber and dust may cause serious, irreversible adverse health effects many years after exposure. These include asbestosis and cancer of the respiratory tract, chest, and abdominal cavity. The long latency period between exposure and when disease may develop emphasizes the importance of preventive industrial hygiene controls.

Steps must be taken to assure that employees with potential exposure to asbestos are aware of these health effects and proper precautions are taken to eliminate asbestos fiber inhalation. These include wet methods of dust suppression, use of effective respirators, vacuuming, local exhaust ventilation, debris containment, and protective clothing. Discussion of asbestos toxicology and control methods are contained in IRAM Industrial Hygiene Bulletins No. 4 and 4b, the OSHA asbestos standard, and Plant Engineering Letter 80-1.

OSHA, as of 4 November 1983, has promulgated an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) for asbestos of 0.5 fibers greater than five microns in length per cubic centimeter of air. In addition to controls that went into effect at the old two-fiber standard (i.e., posting, isolation, and protective equipment) employees must be trained relative to asbestos health hazards if they will be exposed to asbestos concentrations exceeding the ETS.

H. B. Lick

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Attachment

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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SECTION
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AFFAIRS
EMPLOYEE HEALTH SERVICES
Body Engineering Building
Fan Station for Plastics Laboratory
12 October 1983

FAN STATION INSULATION

<u>Material</u>	<u>Percent Composition Found</u>
Chrysotile asbestos	58%

ANALYSIS: Polargraphic analysis by Ford Central Laboratory
DATA RETRIEVAL NUMBER: HBL 2106

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