

FILE NAME: Abex (ABX)

DATE: 1978 Nov 16

DOC#: ABX226

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter RE Nov 15 OSHA Inspection with Attached Worker Complaint



November 16, 1978

Mr. H. C. Platt,
EPD, Rochester, N.Y.

Subject: OSHA Inspection
November 15, 1978

Due to our apparently unsatisfactory response to Grievance 78-23, which was concerned with dust around the shakeout, the third shift shakeout crew filed the attached complaint with OSHA.

As you are aware, we have carefully checked out the shakeout exhaust system, have consulted with Facilities Engineering about upgrading it, and have also had an outside concern, Schneible, look at it. Our current status was relayed to the Union, both Shop Committee and International Vice President, hourly Safety Committee representatives, and complaining employees. The OSHA complaint was filed October 26; Ron Huffman, OSHA Industrial Hygienist arrived after lunch, November 15th.

The usual opening conference with both the Company and Union was followed by a walk-through of the main bay melting, shakeout and pouroff areas. He witnessed and photographed a #4 retort being poured in the small pit from a ladder.

Mr. Huffman returned about 11:00 P.M., met the second and third shift foremen and initiated respirable dust and noise dosimeter sampling on the third shift crane operator, miscellaneous laborer, and two shakeout operators. The crane operator was also sampled for total dust. All these employees normally wear hearing protection and approved respirators.

Chuck Holtzman and I returned early this morning for a brief closing conference. Huffman felt he had good cooperation all round; valid samples and results on these would be available in about 4 weeks. He felt the exposure of the miscellaneous laborer was above the TLV. Citations and penalties would be decided later, even though personal protective equipment was being used.

R. B. Cooper

RBC:fh

cc: P. H. Clapp, Jr.
K. Hoehn
D. K. Rennie
F. W. Knoch, M.D.
N. Kavelaras
C. H. Borcharding
A. Borin/J.R. Holtzman/M. Shefchik
C. W. Holtzman

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ABEX CORPORATION
MEDICAL DEPT.

SPM 1017

This form is provided for the assistance of any complainant and is not intended to constitute the exclusive means by which a complaint may be registered with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Form Approved
OMB No. 3450-1440

Sec. 8(f) (1) of the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. 651, provides as follows. Any employees or representative of employees who believe that a violation of a safety or health standard exists that threatens physical harm, or that an imminent danger exists, may request an inspection or give notice to the Secretary or his authorized representative of such violation or danger. Any such notice shall be reduced to writing, shall be dated, and shall contain with reasonable particularity the grounds for the notice, and shall be signed by the employees or representative of employees, and a copy of such notice shall be given to the employer or his agent no later than at the time of inspection, except that, upon request of the person giving such notice, his name and the names of individual employees referred to therein shall not appear in such copy or on any record published, released, or made available pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. If upon receipt of such notification the Secretary determines there are reasonable grounds to believe that such violation or danger exists, he shall make a special inspection in accordance with the provisions of this section as soon as practicable, to determine if such violation or danger exists. If the Secretary determines there are no reasonable grounds to believe that a violation or danger exists he shall notify the employees or representative of the employees in writing of such determination.

NOTE: Section 11 (c) of the Act provides explicit protection for employees exercising their rights, including making safety and health complaints.

HEALTH/SERIOUS

For Official Use Only

Area	Date Received	Time
8120	10/26/78	1:45 PM
Region	Received By	Formal ☐ Non Formal ☒
V	SH	

The undersigned (check one)

☐ Employee ☒ Representative of Employees ☐ Other (specify) _____

believes that a violation at the following place of employment of an occupational safety or health standard exists which is a job safety or health hazard.

Employer's Name

ABEX CORPORATION

Employer's Address (Street)

TAYLOR & ABBEY ROAD

(City)

ELYRIA

(State)

OHIO

(Zip Code)

Telephone

1. Kind of business

FOUNDRY

2. Specify the particular building or worksite where the alleged violation is located, including address.

DEPT. 13 - MIDNIGHT SHIFT

3. Specify the name and phone number of employer's agent(s) in charge.

4. Describe briefly the hazard which exists there including the approximate number of employees exposed to or threatened by such hazard.

THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL IS DEFECTIVE OVER THE SHAKER THAT SUCKS DUST FROM THE CASTINGS.

DUST AND SAND GOES UP INTO THE CRANE OPERATORS FACES AND MASKS ARE NOT EFFECTIVE. THIS

HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR THREE MONTHS, BUT MANAGEMENT SAYS ITS NOT IN THEIR BUDGET UNTIL

NEXT YEAR. EMPLOYEES ARE GETTING SICK FROM THIS OPERATION. EMPLOYEES POURING THE LONG

HIGH SPIRAL CASTINGS MUST CLIMB LADDERS TO POUR THE METAL. THIS IS DANGEROUS IF A SPILL

SHOULD OCCUR BECAUSE THE MEN WOULD GET BURNED BEFORE HE COULD GET DOWN. THE FUME AND

SMOKE PROBLEM IS VERY BAD ON THIS OPERATION PARTLY BECAUSE MANAGEMENT REFUSES TO RUN

SEVERAL FANS IN THE CEILING DUE TO THE ENERGY CRISIS.

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MEDICAL DEPT.