

DRAFT

AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR
EMPLOYEES EXPOSED TO
AIRBORNE ASBESTOS FIBER

1/22/71

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

WV-1063

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EXHIBIT

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AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES EXPOSED TO AIRBORNE ASBESTOS FIBERGENERAL

This program is designed to be given by the plant physician and followed by a question and answer period participated in by the plant manager, and plant production manager. The plant nurse should also be present.

INTRODUCTION

Asbestos had limited usage 4,500 years ago. Even though it was known to the ancients, asbestos can be truly called a modern mineral of the 20th Century since its output and use has increased a thousand-fold in the last sixty years. The applications of asbestos are surprisingly diverse and constantly expanding. Its uses vary from insulation products, such as made here at Berlin through fireproof clothing, fire resistant insulation in ships and non-combustible buildings, brake shoes and clutch plates, to name only a few. In short asbestos is a very important mineral in our daily lives.

While it is a very important mineral in today's world and makes our lives more comfortable and safe, ^{can cause health problems if} ~~it does have drawbacks since it~~ ^{excessive amounts are taken into the body by breathing over an} ~~can cause adverse health effects in workers who manufacture and handle~~ ^{extended period of time.} ~~asbestos containing products.~~

No doubt you have heard that there are many different kinds of asbestos and some authorities believe that some types of asbestos are more hazardous to health than others. For our purpose, there is enough evidence to suggest that regardless of the type, asbestos should be considered a hazardous material which can cause ^{a health problem} ~~disease~~ if an individual is exposed to excessive airborne concentrations for too long a period of time.

~~This does not mean that everyone who has been exposed to asbestos will be adversely affected~~ rather ~~adverse effects from exposure to asbestos follow the same pattern as other disease causing dusts.~~ This is the ^{problem, normally, occurs} ~~ability to get the fibers~~ ^{get} into the body in sufficient concentrations for a long enough period of time in people who are susceptible to the adverse effects. With regards asbestos, let us look at each one of these points individually.

~~It is well established that asbestos is biologically active. This means that the fiber is capable of causing scarring in the lungs.~~

~~In order to cause this scarring there has to be a sufficient amount of the material which gets into the lungs.~~ Asbestos is a particle which can readily get into the lungs. Therefore, the amount of asbestos that is in the air is most important. If the concentrations of asbestos are kept low enough it is unlikely to cause disease even though some fibers may get in the lungs. Various groups of health professionals, both within and outside of Government have established criteria to define the concentration of asbestos dust which should be permitted in the work room air.

The important parameter of duration of exposure must also be considered. It usually takes many years, often times, twenty or more years of exposure to high concentrations of asbestos dust before ^{a health problem occurs.} ~~the lung scarring, called asbestosis, can be detected.~~ This does not mean that a man who works less than twenty years could not contract the disease. This is only an average time and will vary with the concentrations of asbestos and with the individual's susceptibility.

^{Different people are not necessarily affected in the same way after} ~~the same~~ working in the same concentration for the same length of time, ^{one} ~~might both contract the disease, one man may contract the disease or neither man may contract the disease --~~ this is what is meant by susceptibility.

From a medical standpoint we cannot identify this susceptible individual before he has an exposure nor do we have the answer as to why one individual will get a more severe case than another worker.

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Up to now I have been
again, is a scaring of the
you have all heard can be
that is cancer of the lungs
a long period of time can
frequency that this occurs
that the concentration must
fore, it is important to red
possible.

It is important to not
frequently in the asbestos
the non-smoker. Therefore,
smokers to quit smoking or,

it is strongly suggested that

*We do know that smokers
to be more susceptible*
METHODS OF CONTROL

Now that we have discussed

we prevent these health effects

~~would be wise to go out of~~

~~product, and you men would~~

to control the amount of asbestos

company has over the past two

to control dust emission by

work, hoods, and saw enclosures

~~can be kept to a minimum by~~

~~needed to intimately handle~~

~~skilled at this, this process~~

on the floor and become a source

or cleaning. Further, as you

sweeping machine that assists in house cleaning -- by keeping the

just to a minimum during sweeping operations. In some areas control

has hoods & collectors

by ~~engineering means~~ has not been completely successful. In ~~some~~ *these*

areas where it is difficult to install control equipment we still have

dust levels which are higher than they should be. ~~Industrial hygiene engine~~

~~bring for dust control to the levels we believe necessary is still as much~~ *Difficult*

~~in some cases.~~ Therefore, we will keep working in these areas and

you may see changes in the ventilation system from time to time when we

find better methods of control. ~~This is being done and will be done~~

~~priority to prevent possible health effect to you men~~

Until we can achieve the level of dust control we believe necessary,

equipment
by ~~engineering methods~~ it will be necessary for some of you to wear
respirators.

RESPIRATOR PROGRAM

~~The science of~~ *Measuring* the amount of asbestos in the air has been
rapidly changing and improving. *within the last 2 years there have been developed procedures*
and equipment ~~to measure~~ with which we can
measure more accurately the amount of asbestos fiber in the air by separating

it from other much less hazardous dusts which are generated in the plant.

By using these new techniques and the new concentration criteria Corporate
Medical Services has been intensively studying the airborne asbestos levels
in the plant and has identified those areas they believe have excessive
asbestos exposures. It is only in these areas that personal respiratory
IS NEEDED
protection will be required. Further it will be required only until good
engineering control can be achieved.

Sampling studies using these procedures
and equipment tests in the last year have indicated areas where dust level is of
A personal respiratory protection program is only as effective as
sufficient concern to warrant the wearing of respirators.
the men wearing the respirators make it. ~~Management can suggest, advise,~~

~~order and educate.~~ You men are the only ones who can really make the

program work. The maintenance of health begins with each and every one of us.

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Respirators are made to fit the average man. ~~There is no such~~
~~thing as the average man. Therefore, each respirator must be individually~~
~~fit, the first time by the nurse to whom it must be~~ a good tight fit
 between the face and the respirator. Thereafter it is the responsibility
 of the man to make these adjustments, to keep the mask clean during the
 day and make sure that it is functioning properly. *you will have*
~~then will be a demonstration as to the proper wearing of the mask and~~
~~there will be a demonstration as to the proper wearing of the mask and~~
 maintenance while it is in ^{your} possession ~~of the individual.~~

(Slide of a mask assembled with one next to it disassembled
 to show component parts).

~~This is a~~ typical mask that you will ~~be asked to wear.~~ It's chief
 components are the frame or the portion that fits over the face and holds
 the filter, and the filter holder which protrudes from the front or sides
 of the mask. The filters are disposable and will be changed daily. In
 addition there is an exhaust valve which permits exhaled air to pass back
 into the room.

It is important that the inside of the mask should not become
 contaminated with dust. If this should occur it should be wiped out with
 a damp towel. If you do not feel that your respirator is working properly
 you should bring this to the attention of ~~your supervisor.~~

RESPIRATOR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

We ~~do not~~ expect you ~~to take responsibility for the maintenance~~
~~of your respirator other than~~ to keep the interior clean during your
 workshift and be sure it is working properly. At the beginning of each
 shift you will be provided with a respirator which has new filters in
 it. It will be dispensed to you ~~in a plastic bag.~~ This respirator
 will have been completely disassembled by specially trained personnel,

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cleaned, serviced, and a new filter installed each day. The cleaning process will sanitize the respirator so that there is no possibility passing germs from one man to another. At the end of the work shift collection points will be designated where you will drop off your respirators for cleaning and servicing. Again, it should be emphasized that an improperly worn or maintained respirator will not afford the required protection. This is the responsibility of the individual to see that it is worn properly.

what happened to getting?

Certain areas in the plant are designated as respirator protection areas. Men who work in these areas will be required to wear their respirator while on the job. At each time as you are on break or in the lunch room, and away from these areas, you will not be required to wear the respirator.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

For many years, most of you men, have received an annual chest x-ray as part of the preventive program. We will be instituting shortly *also an annual check up are part of our health program and are pulmonary function testing in addition to the chest x-ray. This coupled with an examination by a physician will permit us to detect at an early stage of any possible changes that may occur.*

In the event that changes in a man's health status are noted, the individual will be told. If the change is not considered to be related to the work, the individual will be referred to his family doctor and the records made available to the physician. In the event that an individual is noted to have a condition which is believed to be related to the job, he will be cared for through the plant medical service. We will be happy to make the information available to the man's family physician, but the responsibility for caring for the individual is through the plant medical service.

always available treatment

To I There are ever any questions about our health program at your supervisor. If I cannot answer the question, I will forward it with the health data.

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We will now have a demonstration of the proper fitting and wearing of the mask as well as a demonstration of possible malfunctions. After this demonstration we will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.