FILE NAME: WR Grace (WRG)

DATE: October 12, 1970

DOC#: WRG330

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: 1970 Inspection Report from Oregon State Board of Health

Division of Preventive Medical Services
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SECTION

OREGON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
OFFICE REPORT OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Date of Report October 12, 1970 SIC

Name of Employment Place Billings and Cronn

Address 1535 N.E. 9th Portland, Oregon

Date Visited Sept. 25, 1970 by Lynn M. Colebank

Persons Seen: Jack Bjorkman, Job Super.; Dick Cronn, Jr., Contractor

Insurance Carrier:

Visit Basis: Self-initiated ____ Request by Jack Ross O.D. Rep. ____ Revisit ____ Other ____

Nature of Health Problem Asbestos

Total Persons Employed 5 Number Involved & Location

Type of Service Given Technical Study

Schedule For Followup: No ____ Yes ____ Date

NARRATIVE:

Mr. Jack Ross, Business Agent for the Plasters Local 82 O.P. & C.M.I.A. informed us that his men would be spraying a compound called Monocoat on the steel beams on the First National Tower. We contacted Mr. Bob Randall, the local sales representative concerning the asbestos content and the application method of Monocoat. This product contains approximately 60% gypsum, 30% Vermiculite, and 10% asbestos fiber by weight. It is being formulated and bagged at the Zonolite Plant on North Harding Street here in Portland. It will be shipped to the job in 39-pound paper bags. They apply approximately 300 bags per day.

At the job site general procedure is as follows:

Mixer man opens bags and adds water to keep two mixers and two pumps in operation. The two pumps move the slurry type mixture through parallel pipe lines to the two spray men working in the tower. It is a water solution from the time it leaves the mixers until it gets to the nozzle man. At the nozzle, compressed air is added to blow the slurry into place.

A field visit was made to the site on the afternoon of September 25 and four breathing zone samplers were attached to the mixer men, the nozzle men and to the hod carrier. It was observed that the mixer men and one of the nozzle men were wearing a 3-M type dust mask. The mixer men appeared to be getting the majority of the dry dust and the hod carrier appeared exposed to some dry dust because he was scraping the fall down off the floor.

Copies to: X
WCB X
LHD
OTHER
OH-20 -12-66

17363-4

This [redacted] is a soft, foamy substance that sticks readily to the steel beams. They apply two coats which will accumulate about 1 1/2 inches of covering on the beam. Mr. Randall supplied us with some studies on previous applications of this material. The studies showed the mixer men and nozzle men to be getting the maximum exposure but all exposures were below the TLV.

LMC/cg

OREGON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

STATE OFFICE BUILDING • 1400 S. W. 5th AVENUE • PORTLAND, OREGON • 97201

November 2, 1970

Billings and Cronn
1535 N. E. 9th
Portland, Oregon

Dear Sirs:

On September 25, 1970 a technical study was conducted at your field job site in the First National Bank Tower. The purpose of this study was to determine the workmen's exposure to asbestos fiber and dust.

Six battery operated portable pumps used in conjunction with breathing zone samplers were operated for about 100 minutes while the spraying of Monocoat was in progress. These samples were submitted to our laboratory for analysis and the results are shown on the following table.

Position	Name	Asbestos in fibers per milliliter	Dust in milligrams per Meter³
Mixer Operator	Danielson	0.32	4.48
Nozzleman	Stotts	0.10	6.60
Nozzleman	Mitts	0.22	
Hod Carrier	Arcouette	0.07	
Threshold Limit Values		12.0	15.0

Threshold Limit Values have been established for air-borne contaminants. These values are commonly referred to as T.L.V.'s and represent the maximum safe value for air-borne contaminants to which a workman may be exposed eight hours a day, forty hours a week without detrimental effects to his health.

By comparing the results obtained from the tests with the T.L.V. value shown on the bottom line, it may be seen that the exposure on the day of my visit was well below the currently accepted limits for asbestos and dust.

Telephone: Area Code 503; Days—226-2161; After Hours—222-1500
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 231, Portland, Oregon 97207

COPY

orm 5-27

Thank you for the courtesy and consideration offered during my visit. If you have further questions regarding this or any occupational health matter, I will be happy to discuss them with you or your staff.

Sincerely,

Lyman C. Duncan
Industrial Hygiene Engineer

Lynn Colebank
State of Oregon Highway Division
885 Airport Road, SE, Bldg. 35
Salem, OR

Mr. Colebank is an engineer who worked as an Industrial Hygiene Engineer for the Occupational Health Section of the Oregon Board of Health at the time the First Interstate Bank Tower was built. Mr. Colebank will testify about his background, education, and work with the Occupational Health Section.

Mr. Colebank will testify that he conducted tests on behalf of the State Board of Health measuring airborne asbestos levels during construction of the First Interstate Bank Tower. Mr. Colebank will testify that those tests showed that the workers involved in applying Monokote spray-on fireproofing were exposed to airborne asbestos fibers at levels well below the existing Threshold Limit Values. Mr. Colebank will testify that the test results convinced him that no remedial measures were required and that he so informed the contractor responsible for the spraying. - ½ hour.

relevance

LANE POWELL SPEARS LUBERSKY
SUITE 800
520 SW Yamhill Street
Portland, Oregon 97204-1383
(503) 226-6151