

cc: Dr. R.C.A. Bock

Insulators - Asbestos Survey

10/23/69

ENCLOSURE 4

ETHYL CORPORATION

INTER-OFFICE

To Mr. W. C. Strader — Address Baton Rouge

From W. E. Rinehart, Sc.D. — Address New Orleans

Subject Asbestos Exposure Levels — Date October 23, 1969

On August 20, 1969, air samples were taken relative to the use of asbestos-containing materials at the Baton Rouge plant. The samples were sent for evaluation to Mr. L. Schaefer, who is considered an expert in identification and counting of asbestos particles, at the Kettering Laboratories in Cincinnati, Ohio. Sample sites, conditions and results were as follows:-

Site and Condition	No. of asbestos fibers (mppcf*)
In shop of second floor alloy area at breathing zone during hand sawing of asbestos board	0.3
Near vibrating conveyor of second floor alloy area at breathing zone during hand sawing, slicing and fitting of pipe insulation	0.1
In shop of hydrocarbon area at breathing zone during band sawing of asbestos board (doors closed)	1.2
Outside shop of hydrocarbon area at breathing zone during ripping of asbestos board with rotary saw	4.2

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*mppcf = million particles per cubic foot

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The value which is presently recommended by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) as a Threshold Limit Value for asbestos is 2 mppcf. This assumes repeated 8 hour workdays under relatively constant exposure conditions. It is true that certain of the operations (power saws) produce a great deal of dust; which very well may exceed "nuisance" levels. The important thing, however, is that our sampling technique (which is more severe than the human respiratory system) did not reveal amounts of asbestos dust (fibers) at the breathing zone which we would consider hazardous under the operating conditions we sampled. Were these conditions to change substantially, the conclusions might be different.

The results obtained for the power sawing operations were of the same order of magnitude as is the TLV and there is no question about the "nuisance level" of the total dustiness. Therefore, we strongly recommend continuance of wearing "Dust-Foe" type respirators as we observed.

Since excessive levels of asbestos during power saw operations were not found, I do not feel there is much likelihood of finding excessive levels in other locations (applying or removing insulation) and I do not feel at this time that further sampling is required.

WWR

W. E. Rinehart, Sc.D.
Environmental Toxicologist

WER/af

cc: Dr. R.C.A. Bock
~~Mr. Wallace Armstrong~~

ETHYL: Interoffice Memo 10/23/69
Rinehart to Strader re: asbestos
Exposure Levels