

Mr. A. S. Kevlin, New York

August 2, 1966

O. W. Pfeifer, Granville

Mr. F. H. Edwards, Toledo

Mr. M. Hardwick, Berlin

Mr. R. J. McEvoy, Granville

Mr. R. M. Mason, Granville

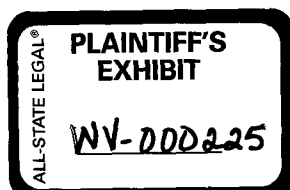
Mr. J. F. Vyverberg, New York

Mr. F. C. Wilson, Granville

KAYLO P/C -- BATH IRON

You requested our comments on the dust sampling of Kaylo P/C occurring during fabrication at Bath Iron.

1. All high temperature insulations, when cut for any purpose, give off various amounts of dust.
2. At all mechanical saws there should be adequate dust arrester equipment installed to give a low reading in million of particles. This applies to such saws in fabrication shops or at job sites. A portable dust arrester attached to the movable saws can be had. This is the responsibility of the employer of the workmen cutting the Kaylo material. If the saw dust arresters are of adequate size, the million of particles per cubic foot are well below the maximum range permissible by a state code governing Public Health. Most states have such an inspection system. Perhaps Maine does not, otherwise, this problem would not be raised?
3. The Berlin Plant was checked many years ago by a Company Industrial Hygienist and adequate dust collection systems were installed at all cutting or grinding stations. The dust count at these equipment positions has been maintained and meets the checks made periodically by the state of New Jersey Industrial Hygienist, with their Bureau of Public Health. In twenty years there has never been a case of asbestosis or silicosis among all of the employees of the Berlin Plant.
4. The amount of dust generated by hand sawing or cutting individual pieces of Kaylo insulation is considerably less than by the rapid cutting action of a mechanical saw and the particles are readily absorbed and dispersed by the air currents of the atmosphere, unless in confined and restricted areas.
5. We are not familiar with the detail of the "Konimeter" used by Mr. William Burgess, Industrial Hygienist of the Howard School of Public Health, but presume it is an acceptable dust gathering area sampling device. Where the sample is taken makes a big difference. One sample is usually taken at the operator's nose and mouth breathing area. The dust intensity depends on the efficiency of the cutting device's dust collection efficiency. Naturally, if there is none, the dust particle accumulation is far heavier. The workmen can always wear a protective respirator if any doubt exists.



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6. It is our opinion that the adequacy of the dust collection system on the saws and grinders is the point in question, not how many particles are given off by various types or kinds of insulations. All are going to give off dust.
7. Years ago Carbide complained of dust in their high temperature insulation fabricating area. When we investigated, we found they had inadequate dust collection. They recognized this and corrected it and we have heard no more about dust on fabrication work since.
8. Mr. F. H. Edwards can give you complete information on this subject for coverage of your customer's needs. He should be acquainted with Bath Iron's inquiry.
9. If the dust problem on cutting, trimming etc. of Kaylo becomes an issue on securing Kaylo orders, then upon direction of the I and C Marketing group, we, here at Research, will have to see whether or not we can reduce the present occurrence.

O. W. Pfeifer

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