

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF SMPD

SUMMARY FOR JULY 1972

Design

The design department volume was maintained during the month. Five new systems were drawn up and thirty-six revisions made. Field assistance was provided for mold measuring, product testing, and hardware fitting at several accounts. Of particular significance was the testing of a four piece wedge hot top at Copperweld Steel Corporation.

Material Development

In-situ production at Bethlehem-Johnstown continued satisfactorily. Some loss of dry strength has been observed so tests are being made to establish what is happening. Experiments with a sealant to stop off cracks in the cut up tops used on slab molds proved successful.

A preliminary test of a topping compound containing RM-531 at Armco-Ashland indicated that the material may be commercially viable. It is hoped to complete production tests late in August.

Major effort continued to be expended in the area of lower toxicity hot topping systems. Emphasis has been changing to lowering asbestos levels in PROFLEX[®] G and PROFAX[®] 31 insulating rings and boards. Meetings are scheduled with Republic Steel Corporation and National Steel Corporation to discuss programs which will phase out asbestos containing products as soon as possible. U.S. Steel Corporation and J&L Steel Corporation have been consulting with us on the problem but as yet no ultimatums have been received. Field trials of a PROFAX[®] 31 type product have been made but metallurgical results were not obtained so additional trials will need to be arranged. Problems associated with suspension and dewatering still need to be solved for the low asbestos PROFLEX[®] gaskets. Work on low silica products is in the very early stages and as yet there is little to report.

A total of 39 samples were run on the Amitec in support of development programs and sales programs.

Difficulties in accounting procedures were encountered when the Tool Room was transferred to Manufacturing so it has been decided to return the group under 434 until December 31, 1972. A total of \$1944 was billed out during the month.

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