

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, INC.

4400 FIFTH AVENUE

PITTSBURGH 13, PA.

July 11, 1947

Memorandum on Plant of
Johns-Manville Corporation

Supplementing The

General Report

"Preliminary Dust Investigation for Asbestos Textile Institute"

Of June, 1947



Dustiness

This plant is designated J in the general report. The summary of dustiness in column J of Table I may be compared with all except plants C and I. There is a consistently higher dustiness in all operations in spite of the fact that large sums of money have been expended for dust control equipment.

The dust count data do indicate satisfactory control of dust in weaving operations.

It is suspected that the major cause of the poor dust conditions results from the practice of returning air from the bag house to the work room. This should be investigated (see discussion of recirculation, page 13, general report).

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Memorandum on Plant of Johns-Manville Corp., Supplementing the
General Report, "Preliminary Dust Investigation for Asbestos
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Dust Control Practices

Data from this plant are not included in the tabulation of exhaust rates for cards (page 1, general report) because the single cards would not be comparable and the control of dust in this department is not good, as judged by dust counts. Observations of duct connections on Whitin cards indicate an original exhaust capacity of over 4,000 to 5,000 cfm.

Dust control arrangements in the new Whitin cards diverge from the best practices listed on page 9 (general report) as to items 2, 3, 6 and 7.

The best combination of exhaust for this card would be worked out in the engineering phases of the long-term investigation proposed in the general report (see page 27, Item 1).

~~Recirculation of air from the workroom has been checked, as~~
above.

The comments on page 13 are pertinent. We do not believe that the efficiency of a wrap dust house is adequate to permit recirculation of air from it back to the workroom as is the present practice. We do not rule out the possibility that safeguards can be devised that will permit the recovery of heat represented thereby.

Medical

The incidence of asbestosis in this plant is comparable to only one other plant (A). The medical problem of diagnosis is complicated in this plant by the fact that many workers have been employed in anthracite coal mines and some show evidence of anthracosis-silicosis. The panel activity referred to on page 14 should be especially valuable in these circumstances.

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