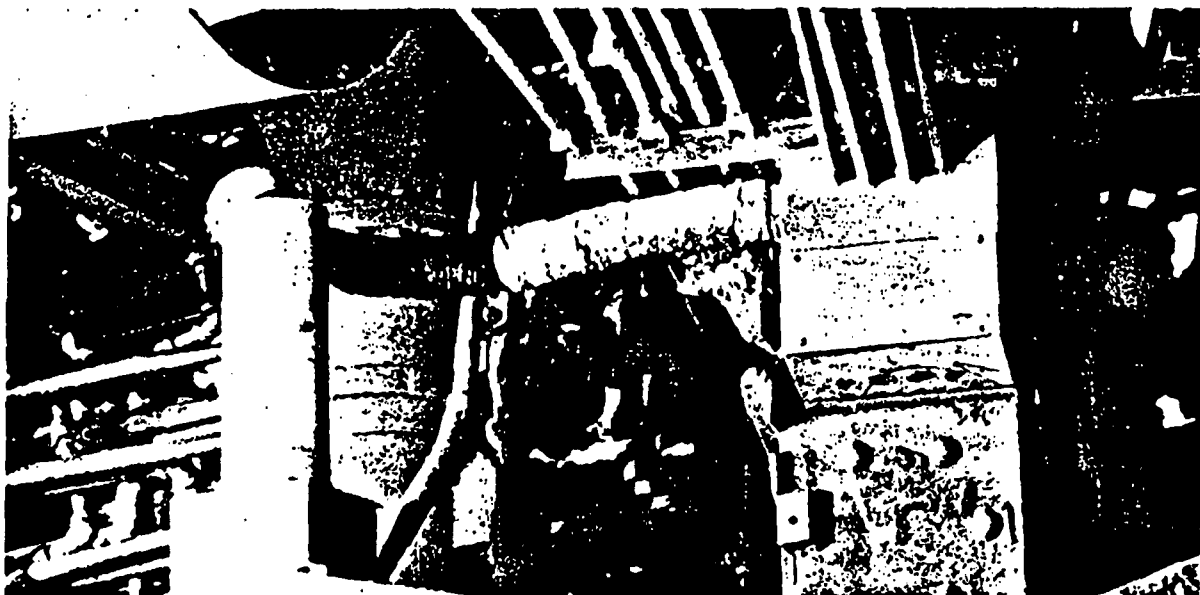


# REFRASIL®

Refractory silica in textile form

# INSULATION

APPLICATION  
BULLETIN  
R-2/3



## REFRASIL tape helps cut blast furnace maintenance costs

At the blast furnace in Armco's Ashland, Kentucky Works, the power lead for the mud gun, insulated with asbestos wrapping, had to be replaced every 7 to 8 weeks. High temperatures and flexing were the culprits.

The same lead wrapped with a single layer of REFRASIL tape, has lasted 6 months already without failure. True, the REFRASIL costs about five times as much as asbestos, but based on other savings it makes possible, this is insignificant.

### Savings mount

Each new power lead costs about \$200. For every REFRASIL wrapped lead, more than nine asbestos-wrapped leads could be required.

If a lead is replaced when not in action, it takes one man to replace it at a cost of about \$12.50 per hour for two hours. But if, as is more often the case, it fails in use, it becomes much more costly. It takes about 3 man-hours for 6 men to finish sealing the blast furnace taphole. This added half hour is delay time for the furnace at a cost of over \$850 per hour. Plugging the taphole when a failed lead puts the mud gun out of commission, is a very unpopular job. Six

men, in teams of two, must take turns going to the taphole with mud and scrambling back to escape the heat. Another good reason for cutting way back on the number of times it's necessary.

### A typical job for REFRASIL tape

REFRASIL tape is one of the forms of REFRASIL textiles. It's a refractory textile prepared by chemically converting glass textiles. It continues to serve at temperatures where glass, asbestos and other textiles fail. It contains no binders or finishes, but can be provided with various coatings for improved abrasion resistance and ease of installation.

This outstanding thermal insulation will operate continuously at temperatures to 1800 F with little or no change in properties and does not melt or vaporize until temperatures exceed 3100 F. The same benefits that make it ideal for mud gun motor lead insulation make it a good choice in many other applications where heat is a maintenance headache. It's well worth looking at for those jobs in your plant.

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