8215H

Minutes

AIR HYGIENE & MANUFACTURING COMMITTEE
Asbestos Textile Institute
October 9, 1969 - The CAROLINA, Pinehurst, N.C.

In attendance:

H.H. Walter, Chairman -- American Asbestos Textile Corporation
L.E. Moody -- H.K. Porter Company, Inc.
R.C. Hunt -- Uniroyal, Inc.
R.B. Smith -- Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
A.R. Patterson -- " "
C.L. Sheckler -- Johns-Manville Corporation

Guests: S.R. Zimmerman, Jr. - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
W.M. Deckman - Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd.
G. Griswold, Jr. - Nicolet Industries, Inc.

Minutes

Bausch & Lomb Automatic Dust Counter:- Summarizing the experience of the member companies with the B&L Dust Counter, the committee came to the conclusion that the B&L instrument is not to considered a replacement for the Impinger, or for the Membrane- Filter.

However, it appears to be a most suitable device for monitoring air contamination over extended periods of time. It is suggested to have various areas periodically monitored over a period of at least a shift, preferably over a period of twenty-four hours. During the recording time all changes in the environment due to changes in humidity, temperature, air-flow, operation, etc, are to be reported as to their nature, time, and duration. Subsequently the strip chart from the B&L Recorder is to be evaluated in conjunction with the environmental report. It will then be possible to pin-point time, duration and extent of air contamination, and reasons for its occurrence over a full cycle of operation.

Whenever periods of high dust concentration have been observed it appears to be necessary to follow up as soon as possible with a dust count by means of the Impinger or the Membrane Filter, at the same location and under the same or at least similar conditions.

Most of our current programs are based on an industrial hygiene survey weekly or monthly. This interval of sampling appears to be too long to determine the effect of high concentration exposure of short duration as might be experienced under certain circumstances. The use of the B&L Dust Counter as a monitoring device, and the Membrane Filter as a fiber counter, supplementing each other, appears to be a most suitable way to pinpoint areas of high dust concentration and the reason thereof. Neither one by itself provides sufficient information.

We are recommending that member companies utilize the B&L Dust Counter in this manner to supplement their current industrial hygiene program. It would be most helpful to our industry if unusual

observations were brought to the attention of this committee.

Using the B&L Dust Counter in the described manner and inasmuch as the Impinger seems to have become obsolete (when the Membrane Filter is used in conjunction with the B&L Dust Counter) it is not necessary to develop a method for correlating dust counts obtained by the two instruments.

Membrane Filter Method:

Mr. C.L. Sheckler reported that the Impinger will most likely no longer be used and that the Membrane Filter Method is going to be the accepted method for evaluating asbestos dust. At the present time 12 fibers per cc, 5 microns plus, are considered to be the equivalent to 2 MPPCF as reported by Mr.J.Lynch, U.S.P.H.Service.

Cleaning Procedures:

Various methods for cleaning production equipment and rooms were discussed. A member of the committee reported on the use of the Abington System for periodic cleaning operations. Other member companies are using compressed air about twice a year for the removal of dust from pipes, rafters, ceilings, walls, etc. It appears to be most important that in this area major efforts are made to improve our methods and preferably prevent any excessive accumulation of dust.

Dust Prevention in Blending and Carding:

The committee members exchanged ideas in regards to dust abatement in the blending and carding operation. Enclosed blending lines, use of plastic bags for mixes, enclosed automatic card feed, lap system and other devices were discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

H.H. Walter
Chairman