

FILE NAME: ALCOA (ALC)

DATE: 1964 Aug 12

DOC#: ALC049

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter

JOHNS-MANVILLE CORPORATION

TWENTY-TWO EAST FORTIETH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

August 12, 1964

Mr. F. W. Boers
Aluminum Co. of America
5151 Alcoa Avenue
Vernon, California

Dear Mr. Boers:

Recently I was advised that you had contacted our Mr. J. G. Malone concerning potential health hazards when your employees were machining Molten Metal Marinite. About the same time, I received a similar inquiry from others in your Pittsburgh organization.

Quite frankly, we have had no reported cases of dermatitis or any other allergic response among our employees who manufacture this product. The epoxy resin does not appear to be a problem in our plant. Of course, we observe good housekeeping and personal hygiene habits. In addition, because this product does contain asbestos fiber, we have established a maximum allowable concentration of 5 million particles per cubic foot for any dust that might be created.

I have received no other complaints or inquiries concerning the health of other customers' employees. This being the first inquiry on this product, I would be very grateful if you could give me a little more information concerning the exact nature of your employees complaints, as well as the method in which they are handling this material. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if I can be of further assistance.

Very truly yours,

Kenneth W. Smith, M.D.
Medical Director

cc: Mr. E. J. Caprio
Alcoa Research Laboratories
Box 772
New Kensington, Pa.

Mr. Thomas Rooney
Aluminum Co. of America
Alcoa Building
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ARCH 18220

