

March 7, 1968

Mr. Richard Schen, Supervisor
Employment and Compensation
Dodge Products Division
General Motors Corporation
2000 Forrer Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio 45401

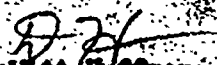
Dear Mr. Schen:

Thank you for the courtesy extended me during my visit to your office on February 29, 1968.

Enclosed is a letter to the Industrial Commission of Ohio regarding O.D. 8649-22, Irvine Chase. This copy is for your information and file.

If this Division can be of assistance to your company at any time on industrial hygiene or engineering problems relating to safety, please let us know.

Very truly yours,


Delitt Hoffman, P.E.
Asst. Chief Eng. & Hygiene

DH:fb

Enc: Technical Bulletin-
Iron Fumes & Dust

once Union Ship

35

March 7, 1968

Industrial Commission of Ohio
Ohio Departments Building
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attn: Paul J. Dragan, Referee
Room 419-B

Re: O.D. 8649-22
Irvine Chase

Gentlemen:

On February 29, 1968 a visit was made to the Delco Products Division, General Motors Corporation, 2000 Ferrie Blvd., Dayton, Ohio 45401 to check conditions under which the above named claimant had worked. The company manufactures shock absorbers and electrical motors.

According to company records the claimant's employment experience is as follows:

4/17/42 - 4/6/43	Janitor.
4/6/43 - 4/16/45	Abrasive Blaster.
4/16/45 - 4/27/45	Bailer Operator.
4/27/45 - 5/24/45	Military
5/24/45 - 11/12/45	Material Handler and Assembler.
11/12/45 - 11/29/48	Abrasive Blaster.
11/29/48 - 7/31/51	Rough Grinder.
7/31/51 - 5/11/53	Spray Painter Shock Absorber.
5/11/53 - 3/7/55	Burr Grinding.
3/7/55 - 1/25/64	Arc Welding.
1/25/64 - 2/10/64	Illness.
2/10/64 - 3/4/64	Arc Welding.
3/4/64 - 6/15/64	Illness.
6/15/64 - 7/22/66	Arc Welding.
7/22/66 -	Illness, last day worked.

The claimant had a pre-employment physical examination but that did not include a chest x-ray. His first chest x-ray was 4/6/43 when he was scheduled to be transferred to a job as abrasive blaster. He was given an x-ray at that time and every 6 months until 14 pictures were taken. The company physician reported no evidence of silicosis.

According to company records, previous employment experience is as follows:

1939 - for 2 months GHR Foundry Laborer.

1939 - for 2 years Dayton Steel Foundry Laborer.

1934 - 1939 Farm Laborer, Kentucky.

As an abrasive blaster (the company lists this job as a sand blaster) the claimant worked at the Monument Avenue plant of this company which they no longer have. It is reported by a foreman that steel grit was used as an eroding medium. It is also reported that the claimant had the protection of an air line helmet which, since O. M. has an industrial hygiene department, was probably a U.S. Bureau of Mines approved helmet. He also wore a dust respirator under the helmet. 70 or 75% of his work was on iron castings. Although these castings were supposed to have been cleaned of burnt-in sand and other foundry sand, there may have been a slight amount of silica sand on them. The cleaning was largely to remove rust. The remaining 25 or 30% was structural metal.

As a burr grinder he removed small amounts of metal from castings and other parts. Two dust counts taken by Hugh Kline, Frigidaire Division, 8/23/57, indicated a dust concentration of 2.1 and 2.9 million particles per cubic foot of air. He pointed out that the dust "is considered non-toxic metallic dust."

On this visit a dust count was taken in the breathing zone of an employee operating an arc welder. It indicated a concentration of 0.1 million particles per cubic foot of air. Since there was little or no visible dust or fume in the air it was thought that a dust count would be adequate. (This division has found a marked correlation between dust counts and fume concentration at welding operations.) The welding is inert-arc with argon used as a shield. Laminations which are part of electric motors are stacked and put in a chuck where the welding is done automatically. A curtain is closed and the operation is exhausted. The equipment is Ameco #6, four torch welder, 240 amps., 12-18 Volts. One motor per minute, 8 welds 6' long is welded. The building or room is over 100'x100'x15' to the ceiling.

It is concluded that the claimant might have had over 3 years exposure prior to 9/11/48, to burnt-in silica sand dust or sand on casting while employed as an abrasive blaster. There is no apparent source of silica dust exposure after 9/11/48. He probably had heavy exposure to silica dust for two years as a foundry employee in prior employment.

Very truly yours,

DeWitt Huffman, P.E.
Asst. Chief Eng. & Hygiene

DE:fb

Enc:Tech. Bulletin, Iron Dust and Fumes