PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
ETCO-295

To

S. D'Armond 5/20/75

Your query re BR Plant & Asbestos. Up to this point in time, in the sense of preventing the spread of asbestos disease (see attachment) I have not been requested to evaluate the asbestos handling system at BR Plant.

I believe practices for the most part are in conformance, however there may be some unintentional loose ends which may deserve attention.

Let us know if this service is desired.

cc: T.R. Robinson

ETHYL

H.M. Taylor
Industrial Hygienist

Environmental Sciences Laboratory

MSM Mount Sinai School of Medicine

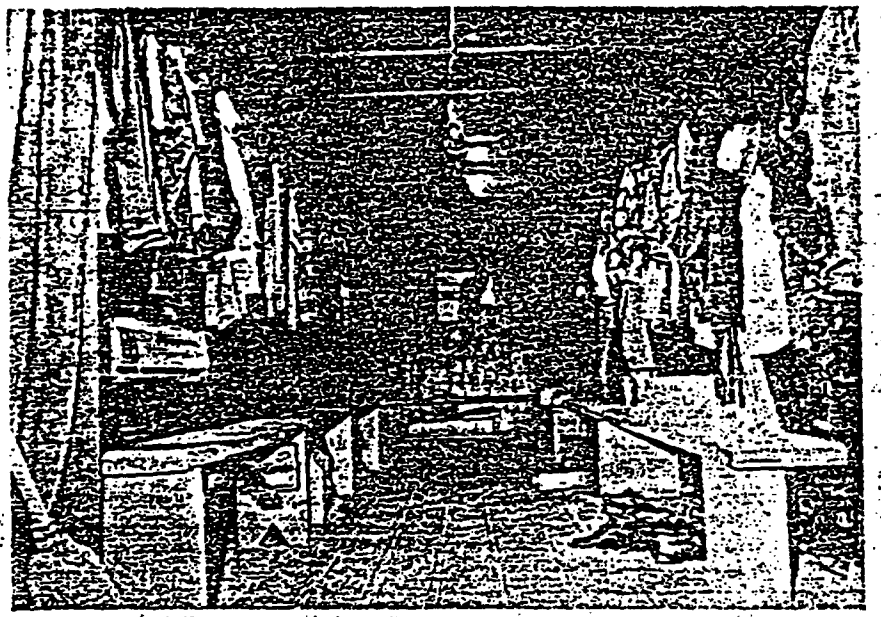
of The City University of New York

INSULATION HYGIENE PROGRESS REPORTS

FROM THE INSULATION INDUSTRY HYGIENE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Irving J. Selikoff, M.D., Program Director

Vol. 7 No 2 — Summer 1975



Inadequate change and shower facilities can lead to extensive amounts of asbestos and other dusts being brought home to contaminate workers' households. Here, the only change facilities on this construction site is an open trailer.

Asbestos Disease Can Spread to Workers' Families

A widening spectrum of asbestos disease has been found by Dr. Henry Anderson and other scientists of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. In a study just completed of 326 family contacts of former asbestos factory workers, it has been found that 35% had X-ray abnormalities characteristic of asbestos exposure. These data were presented by Dr. Anderson on March 24th to the Conference on Occupational Carcinogenesis held at the New York Academy of Sciences.

The family members potentially affected included all in the household; it was not simply the wife of the worker, who would shake dust from her husband's clothes before washing them. Affected were children, brothers, and sisters, as well as wives. It would appear that the dust had been present throughout the house[illegible] home on the clothes of the factory workers.

The workers were employed at a factory that manufactured amosite insulation material, often for use in Naval ships, but also widely used in power plants and industrial insulation. It operated from 1941 through 1954. Many of the workers whose families later developed signs of asbestos exposure were employed for relatively short periods of time.

The dust exposures to the family members, however, could have been longer. Asbestos, once in the house, is difficult to remove, and exposures could continue long after cessation of the husband's or father's employment. In other studies by Mount Sinai research workers, asbestos dust has been found still present in households of

Identification System for Adhesives-Solvents

It is now possible to report that progress is being made on the development of an identification system for hazardous materials, including adhesive cement, sealants, and similar products used in applying insulation materials.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has an advisory committee which has developed the basic principles of an identification system. This committee, under the direction of Roy Resnick, has met with Roy Steinfurth, Administrator of the Insulators' Health Hazards Program, and Duncan A. Holaday, of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, to review the special problems associated with the use of adhesives in the insulation industry.

Hazards Identified

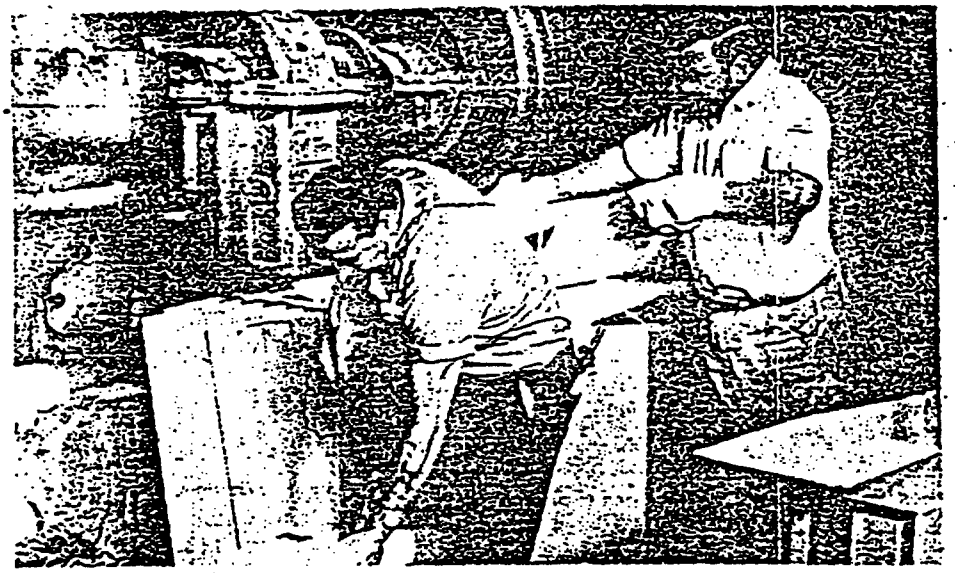
The OSHA committee has decided on the basic principles of an identification system which will be applicable to a variety of industrial products. Signal words, such as "Danger," "Caution," and "Warning" will be used to show degree of hazard. The principal types of hazards will be identified by words such as "Flammable" or "Health Hazard" and statements listing additional information needed for protection will also be required.

Some identification of the principal component will also be given. Particularly hazardous substances, such as wood alcohol, benzene, xylene, and toluene will be required to be named if they compose more than stated percentages of the product. Altogether, this could mean that labels on industrial products would be as informative as those now required on products intended for household use.

This would indeed be an improvement over the present [illegible]

E-00558 ETC 15419

EIH 00017



Two asbestos workers cutting block. Relatively little dust is dispersed into the air . . .



. . . but much is falling on their clothes and shoes and may be carried home.

Asbestos Disease Can Spread to Workers' Families

continued from page 1

these former factory workers 20 years after closure of the plant.

Mesothelioma, a cancer often linked to asbestos exposure, has also been found among these family members. Of 252 deaths so far identified among household contacts of these former workers, two have been from pleural mesothelioma. Additionally, two other mesothelioma cases have been identified in living members of this group.

These cases have the following histories:

A.C.: The 40-year-old son of a man who worked from 1945 through 1948 in the plant, when the son was 11 years old.

B.P.: The 41-year-old daughter of the plant's chief engineer.

I.Y.: The 42-year-old daughter of a man who had worked in the plant for five years. The family lived near the plant and the daughter used to bring her father lunch every day, when she was 10 years old.

L.N.: A 32-year-old woman who, at the age of 13, lived in the home of her brother-in-law while he worked at the plant for six months. Prior to that, she lived one-half mile from the plant and played frequently in the homes of friends whose fathers worked in the plant.

The results of this study dramatize the need for stringent dust control and cleanup in situations where asbestos is used. It also heightens the importance of individual worker hygiene and demonstrates the need for adequate changing facilities and showers. Under no circumstances should dusty clothes be brought into the home, even to be put into the washing machine. They should be washed separately, preferably by a commercial industrial laundry service equipped to handle asbestos contaminated work clothes.

For family contacts who suspect they have been exposed to considerable household contamination, medical surveillance is in order. The family physician should be told the exposure history so that X-ray and chest examinations and subsequent medical problems can be closely monitored for possible symptoms of past asbestos exposure at home.

This current report by Dr. Anderson is only the most recent in a series of scientific publications that show family and environmental asbestos risk. As early as 1960, scientists reported cases of mesothelioma in individuals who had had no prior occupational exposure to asbestos.

Later, mesothelioma cases were reported in individuals whose only identifiable asbestos exposure was associated with their having lived within one-half mile of an asbestos manufacturing facility or in households of asbestos workers. Dr. Anderson's findings show that such problems may turn out to be quite common and that more persons than suspected may be at risk from asbestos exposure, and require appropriate surveillance.

Label Report Available Soon

continued from page 3

June 15, 1975. Following this report, proposed regulations would be prepared, published in the Federal Register, comments received, revised regulations prepared, and hearings held. After the hearings, final regulations would be drawn up and promulgated. The full process could well take a year.

However, when the committee report becomes available, further discussions will be held between representatives of the insulators and OSHA, to determine which of the recommendations can be implemented without waiting for regulations to be promulgated.

This situation is not limited to products used by insulators, but is widespread throughout the construction industry. Members of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, especially, have need of adequate labeling of the products they use.

Progress is being made but much still needs to be done to insure that when regulations are adopted, they will be effective. Here, the Asbestos Workers, Painters, and other affected union members should review the published recommendations to verify that the proposed labeling is adequate for the materials they use and the instructional materials supplied for the use of hazardous materials are clearly written and understandable.

E-00559

ETC 15420

ETH 000195