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Environmental Control Department
Research & Engineering Center
June 29, 1971

G. E. Grimshaw - Pittsburgh Dist. Off.

cc: R. C. Wyllie - Mvl
H. E. Konrad - DHQ
A. G. Reinker - Pittsburgh
File & C

ALCOA - PITTSBURGH, PA.
MOLTEN METAL MARINITE

Bob Wyllie has asked that I reply to your letter of June 18 addressed to H. E. Konrad.

In the last paragraph of your letter you discuss the possibility of physical changes in the asbestos fiber during the heat treating operation that is part of the manufacturing process for MOLTEN METAL MARINITE. To the best of our knowledge there is not sufficient change in the fiber to modify the potential health hazard.

It is Johns-Manville's practice to equip all of the dust creating devices used in the fabrication of MARINITE with properly designed dust control systems. We use the manual "Industrial Ventilation" prepared by the Committee on Industrial Ventilation of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists as a guide in designing these systems. This manual costs \$4.00 per single copy and may be obtained by writing to:

Secretary/Treasurer
American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
1014 Broadway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

The objective of the dust control system is to maintain the dust concentrations in the workplace below the Threshold Limit Value. Industrial Hygiene Surveys utilizing the membrane filter/personal air sampler technique, recommended by the United States Public Health Service, can determine if this objective has been met for asbestos fiber dust. Alcoa has an active industrial hygiene department under the direction of Dr. Lester V. Cralley that I believe has the ability to perform this survey.

I enclose for your information and use the following booklets:

- (1) "Recommended Health Safety Practices for Handling and Applying Thermal Insulation Products Containing Asbestos" prepared by the National Insulation Manufacturers Association.

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- (2) "Recommended Practices for Fabricating, Handling and Applying Asbestos-Cement Products in the Building and Construction Industries" prepared by the Health & Safety Council - Asbestos Cement Products Association.
- (3) "Asbestos: Health Precautions in Industry" prepared by the Department of Employment and Productivity in Great Britain.
- (4) "Recommended Safety Practices for Handling Asbestos Fiber" prepared by Johns-Manville.

S. A. Tompkins is preparing a new set of OEM data pages referring specifically to the control of dust when fabricating J-M MARINE JOINER PANELS. The same standards would apply to the fabrication of MOLTEN METAL MARINITE.

In the postscript to your letter you mention the range of dust particle size. We have never measured this, but believe that much of the particulate and fibrous dust ranges from .5 to 5 microns in diameter.


E. M. Fenner

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