

FILE NAME: Kennecott (KENN)

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Kennecott

Kennecott was a corporate member of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation from 1946-1972 and therefore received the monthly Industrial Hygiene Digest. During these years, the Digest carried scores of abstracts of articles on asbestosis and asbestos cancer published worldwide in hundreds of medical, trade, engineering and science journals. The abstract of the JAMA editorial "Asbestosis and Cancer of the Lung" appeared the same month the editorial appeared, August 1949.

Kennecott's John F. Knudsen in Salt Lake City was a member of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) in 1958 and as a result would have received the AIHA Journal that carried an Industrial Hygiene Guide on asbestos in 1958 warning that asbestos dust was linked to asbestosis and lung cancer. The same journal carried Marr's 1964 article about asbestosis in California shipyards. Knudsen was also in the Roster of the American Academy of Industrial Hygiene in 1962

Starting in 1971, Kennecott was subject to asbestos regulations of the new federal agency, OSHA. These requirements, including the bagging, labelling and disposal of waste asbestos insulation removed during plant maintenance turnarounds, appear to have been completely disregarded during the years Mr. Rydalch worked at Kennecott, starting in 1971 and continuing intermittently into the early 1980s.

Kennecott's President was also on the Board at Johns-Manville in 1938-1948 and had access to information Johns-Manville possessed, including information about asbestos hazards. The relationship between Johns-Manville and Kennecott did not stop with shared board members. Johns-Manville also assisted Kennecott during Kennecott's ownership in the Greek "Zidani" asbestos mine and Kenbestos Mining Corporation.

Kennecott purchased The Okonite Company in 1958 which manufactured asbestos-containing products and was aware of the hazards of asbestos prior to Mr. Rydalch working at Kennecott.