

FILE NAME: Raybestos-Manhattan (RBM)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Asbestos Fiber Count at RBM Plant

Raybestos Manhattan Industrial Products Company

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Environmental Services

Location: North Charleston, S. C.

To: Mr. W. Krucke

Date: November 5, 1976

Subject: Asbestos Fiber count at Hoechst Fiber Company
in Spartanburg, S. C.



Attached is a copy of the report that I sent to Marion Boyett of North Brothers on asbestos dust generation during installation of our conventional 10P225 AAA untreated cloth at the construction site.

I would also like to comment that consideration should be given to these counts due to methods presently being used today at Hoechst Fiber and in the insulation industry compared to some of the older methods.

Below is a brief description of insulating straight line pipes, valves, flanges, etc., the old method and the new way that a large proportion of insulation is being installed today.

Old methods consisted of:

1. Laying a piece of asbestos cloth on the pipe or valve to form the inner or first ply.
2. Then pre-formed insulation is attached or filler (in mud form) may be applied by hand to valves and hard to get to areas. This preformed insulation and insulation filler also contained a per cent of asbestos fiber.
3. The insulation filler is then covered with an outer ply of asbestos cloth and painted with a special cement to make the outer surface brittle and rigid.

New methods that are largely used today are:

1. Various pipe and segment insulation is fabricated in a shop and transferred to the work place and installed.
2. Fabrication consists of covering component parts of pre-formed insulation filler with asbestos cloth and paint with special cement to obtain a durable surface. The pre-formed filler being used today contains "no asbestos" fiber.
3. Component parts are then attached to lines and valves with wire or metal straps allowing the parts to be removed if necessary with no dust generation during removal.

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Tearing out old insulation could be a dusty job and under certain conditions would be the highest exposure of the insulation worker. I did not have the opportunity to sample tear-out operations during my visit at Hoechst but this should be considered in order to collect total representative samples of the insulation worker on the construction site. Tear-out monitoring should be taken during removal of insulation that was installed using the old method because this would be representative of the worker's exposure several years ago.

It is my feeling that, if we are going to collect asbestos dust counts for court testimony that represents the insulation worker on the construction site, we should be monitoring employees working with the old method of installing insulation rather than the new. Five of the seven counts taken at Hoechst Fiber were made during fabrication of insulation using the new method and are not representative of the worker's activity in past years.

If you feel that there is a need to discuss future methods of monitoring dust generation from asbestos cloth that is being used by the insulation worker on the construction site, please do so.

Complete work sheets of the Hoechst Fiber counts are on file.

Pat Cooper

Pat Cooper

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Attachment

cc: J. W. Frampton, Jr.

M. Q. Scowcroft