

gia-Pacific



PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

GP-961

company memo

to Mr. G. E. Wilson

location Portland

from C. W. Lehnert

location Tigard

subject OSHA Asbestos Regulations

date February 4, 1976

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In July, 1976 the OSHA regulations will change the eight-hour time weighted average for airborne asbestos from five to two fibers/cc. Another OSHA proposal under consideration would reduce the limit to $\frac{1}{2}$ fiber/cc and in addition require a different warning label and increase the monitoring and recordkeeping requirements when $\frac{1}{2}$ fiber/cc was exceeded. At your request I am submitting this recommendation to prepare for the more stringent OSHA regulations.

Our asbestos fiber measurements to date show that some minor modifications in equipment at the dry mixing area will probably bring us within the two fiber/cc limit. If the new regulation permitting $\frac{1}{2}$ fiber/cc is adopted, our only alternative is to eliminate asbestos. In my opinion we should prepare for the worst and plan to eliminate asbestos from all of our products by July. I believe we should also make the modifications at the dry mix stations in order to bring the levels below the two fiber limit in the event we do not make the schedule at all locations.

There are a number of things to be taken into consideration as we proceed to eliminate asbestos fiber. Inventories of products containing asbestos fiber, major raw materials such as asbestos, casein, starch, and other minor raw materials will be gradually phased out. Also, inventories of casein bags and pails containing the asbestos warning label will have to be phased out.

There will be some impact on Sales inasmuch as we will be making another major formula change in ready mix following the recent change to make our products boric acid stable. The casein products contain asbestos so they will be eliminated and presumably be replaced with the asbestos free vinyl formulas being furnished by Chicago. Raw Material costs will be higher at most locations for the asbestos free ready mix so this should be taken into consideration. We have assigned Bill Gettel to spend 100% of his time on asbestos free products to make improvements as required and investigate cost savings opportunities.

Since we have made truckload shipments of asbestos free ready mix from Akron, we believe the transition should start there. We should immediately begin to replace shipments of regular ready mix with the asbestos free formula. There is no significant difference in raw material cost between the asbestos and asbestos free ready mix products at Akron. Field testing

of Acme's asbestos free should be expedited in the three areas where we have furnished material. If the field testing is successful, it should be immediately followed by truckload shipments into the markets where the tests were conducted. As soon as Akron is converted to an asbestos free ready mix we should begin making the transition at Marietta, Milford and finally Chicago. I have attached a suggested schedule for your consideration.

C. W. L.

CWL/vvp

Attachment

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