

FILE NAME: Insulation Contractors & Distributors (ICD)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Workman's Compensation Claims -
Asbestosis

CREDRIATI - INDUSTRIAL INSULATION

in Sales Dept.
September 13, 1962

MR. A. L. JONES

SUBJECT: Workmen's Compensation Claims - Asbestosis

Dear Alton:

In a recent meeting of West Coast Contractors at Vancouver, a section of the meeting was devoted to discussing the increasing popularity of claims for asbestosis being made with the Health and Welfare Administration.

The J. T. Thorpe Company of Los Angeles has had two recent claims and had a hearing before the Health and Welfare Administration on two former employees. Although it is their company policy to furnish respirators to the asbestos workers, these are seldom used. In the Spokane Office of E. J. Bartells, they have had three claims. In Los Angeles, Armstrong has had one claim. Nationally, there has been one claim filed in the State of Ohio, 13 in California, 1 in Connecticut, 1 in Florida, 1 in Pennsylvania and 1 in New York. This fad for making asbestosis claims could easily lead to the classification of this trade as a hazardous occupation with a subsequent increase in State Insurance costs. In some areas of the Country, the Asbestos Workers are now required to take X-ray examinations and many of the local asbestos workers unions are claiming that they are being rated higher for personal insurance. Since the cost of medical aid and welfare has doubled in the last five years, most of these contractor associations are interested in obtaining information from any of the manufacturers that include asbestos on their experience with workmen who have been using these products over a long period of years. The Aetna Life Insurance Company in 1940 made a private study for Owens-Corning, showing that plant people had not been affected by fiberglas. The Associated Insulation Contractors of the Western States is now compiling information on this problem and I believe we have an excellent opportunity to place our case in the record as not being a contributing cause of any of these types of claims. If we can develop any statistics or data that could be useful on this subject, I will be glad to forward the information to the attention of Mr. Ken McCaffree, Executive Secretary of the Associated Insulation Contractors, for inclusion in his report.

John P. Hartington

JPH/em

cc: Mr. H. F. Hurn
Mr. P. L. Losse
Mr. F. L. Woodbridge

EXHIBIT E