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Attachments

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
CEL-3041

THE DISCOVERY COMPANY

ION CARBIDE CORPORATION · MINING AND METALS DIVISION · 270 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017
EASE REPLY TO: "CALIDRIA ASBESTOS" - P. O. BOX 579 - NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y. 14302

December 16, 1970

Mr. William Freed
Celanese Plastics Co.
160 Terminal Ave.
Clark, NJ 07066

Dear Mr. Freed:

Thank you for your phone call Monday afternoon.

As with any dusty material, we recommend the use of a respirator when the concentration of dust becomes higher than 2.4 ppm per cubic foot. Generally speaking, the only time that this level can be reached is when bags are being opened. Proper ventilation alone would probably reduce the concentration within acceptable limits. To be absolutely safe however, we do recommend the use of a respirator.

I have enclosed an information circular put out by the U. S. Bureau of Mines concerning respirators approved for asbestos dust. Our plant in King City uses the Willson Mono Mask number 600-A. It is not uncomfortable and is essentially 100% effective.

Please let us know if we can be of assistance in any way. If so, complete the enclosed card, write, or phone us directly.

Your interest in our products is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

E. J. Kleber
Customer Service Representative
CALIDRIA Asbestos

27645

/cv

ASBESTOS TOXICOLOGY REPORT

It has been known for years that some persons working in asbestos production were prone to develop a disabling lung disease. In time, this condition became known as asbestosis and was related to exposure to high concentrations of asbestos dust. With further experience, it was found that men could work with asbestos without development of lung disease if dust concentrations were kept below a certain level.

It has been generally accepted that a worker will not develop asbestosis if he is exposed to no more than 5 million particles per cubic foot of air, even if this exposure continues for his entire working lifetime. Although no cases of asbestosis are known to have occurred when exposures have been maintained at or below this level, the ACGIH (which sets the threshold limit value (TLV) in the U. S. A.) has indicated they intend to lower the TLV for asbestos to 2 million particles per cubic foot in an effort to increase the safety factor incorporated in the limit. The U. S. Department of Labor has already issued a regulation under the Walsh-Healy Act placing the TLV for asbestos at 2 million particles per cubic foot for public contracts in which they have jurisdiction. This concentration of dust is generally not visible in the average work area unless a

beam of light causing a Tyndall effect is present. Usually the dust concentration must be from 8-10 million particles per cubic foot (MPPCF) before its presence is visible in average lighting conditions.

Several years ago, it was reported that there was an increase in the incidence of cancerous tumors, especially of the lung, associated with asbestosis. Recently there have been reports of some cancers occurring in individuals exposed to asbestos dust, but who have not developed clinical asbestosis. It is believed by most authorities that these cases have been associated with exposures significantly exceeding the Threshold Limit Value.

A type of cancer named mesothelioma has been noted to be associated with asbestos exposure in recent years. These tumors, while rather few in number to date, may occur in individuals with histories of only slight exposures, and that as much as twenty to forty years earlier. There is considerable evidence that crocidolite is most frequently associated with mesotheliomas. From the data available it appears that the TLV of 5 MPPCF is not low enough to protect against mesothelioma, and it is quite possible that 2 MPPCF is not, either. Research on the problem continues.

Control of asbestos dust exposure is therefore necessary. The control methods are the standard ones applicable to a variety of dusty operations. They include closed flow systems,

have to be well in excess of any levels acceptable to the consumer for the asbestos concentrations to approach the Threshold Limit Value.

In conclusion, while asbestos dust in excess of the Threshold Limit Value is potentially harmful, as are many other dusts encountered in industry, it is as readily controlled as other such dusts and it can be used safely with appropriate precautions.

Industrial Medicine And
Toxicology Department
Union Carbide Corporation