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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, INC.

4400 FIFTH AVENUE

PITTSBURGH 13, PA.

July 11, 1947

Laboratory on Plant of
Philadelphia Asbestos Company
Supplementing The
General Report



"Preliminary Dust Investigation for Asbestos Textile Institute"

Of June, 1947

Discussion

This plant is designated as C in the general report, and the dustiness summarized in that column of Table 1. For reasons outlined in the general report, the values for preparation are probably not very representative in any of the plants and only approximate comparisons, therefore, can be made.

The data for carding and weaving confirm the observable fact of high dustiness in this plant. Only one other plant in the group is comparable to it.

Our own dust counts, which supplemented those in the general report, are as follows:

PHS
107
Bram

40

Memorandum on Plant of Philadelphia Asbestos Company, Supplementing the General Report "Preliminary Dust Investigation for Asbestos Textile Institute" of June, 1947.

Number	Elapsed Time (mins.)	Location	Dust Count
1	5	General air near rule spinner located nearest to office. Judged that no dust from any adjoining department.	5.7
2	5	At loom No. 94, dry weaving. Judged that most dust from weaving (although possible contribution from picker room).	11.6
3	5	At high speed, P & S, cards, at delivery end. Exposure of operator. Considerable dust contribution from older cards in adjoining room.	13.0
4	7	General air in old card room. Ineffective sheet metal canopy hoods over cards.	10.2
5	5	General air sample obtained while walking up and down aisles between twisting machines.	6.6

Dust Control Practices

Control of dust from the P & S cards cannot be very satisfactory while that from the older cards is uncontrolled. If their use is to be continued immediate steps should be taken to provide proper enclosures for them.

Ultimate exhaust of the P & S cards will doubtless differ in some details from other cards, but for the present the following points are to be noted. The existing arrangements differ from best practices listed on page 9, general report, as to items 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8. Especially disadvantageous is the large diameter (8 inch) branch duct from the top of the housing in combination with the narrow slot connection to the housing.

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The practice of recirculation of air from the dust collector is questionable although it may appear that less difficulty will be experienced with this type of collector than some others in use. In order to follow any changes in pressure drop, a simple water U-tube should be installed that will indicate this value and can be frequently observed.

The greatest need in this plant is guidance in the control of dust from carding machines. This could be covered by the program outlined in the general report for the long term project.

Medical

The x-ray survey of this plant more recently showing only 3 to 4 per cent, is in sharp contrast to the experience of some other plants. Lacking information as to detail work history of the employees no explanation can be offered now, but the discrepancy should be investigated.

E.C.L. Henson
Head Engineer

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