

Minutes: Air Hygiene and Manufacturing Committee

June 3, 1965

Motel LeProvence

Thetford Mines, P. Q. Canada

10:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Attending:

Members:

L. C. Williams, Chairman	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
W. C. Atkinson	Johnsville-Manville Corp.
D. T. Austin, Jr.	United States Rubber
C. L. Sheckler	Johns-Manville Corp.
R. B. Smith	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
A. C. Link	United States Rubber
T. C. McCluskey, Jr.	Tallman-McCluskey Fabrics Co.
K. W. Nelson	American Smelting & Refining Co.

Guests:

Dr. K. Smith	Johns-Manville Corp.
Dr. L. J. Cralley	U.S. Public Health Service
Dr. J. H. Wolfsie	Medical Director-U.S. Rubber
Dr. P. Cartier	Thetford Mines Clinic
Maurice Lachance	Q.A.M.A.
Jerry Mitchell	British Belting & Asbestos Ltd.

Absent:

H. Walter	American Asbestos Textile
A. P. Gouveia	H. K. Porter Co., Inc.

Public Health Service Survey

Dr. Lewis J. Cralley

Scientist Director, Assistant Chief

Dr. Cralley presented a paper (draft copy) prepared by Jeremiah B. Lynch of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare titled "Asbestos Study - Procedures and Findings". Particular attention was given to Table 1. This table shows the improvement industry control programs have had on dust concentrations.

Table 1
Dust Concentrations - Asbestos Textile Surveys

SURVEY	Penna.	PHS 1938		Public Health Service
	1934	Without	With	1964
		Control	Control	
	Concentration in mppcf			
Range of)	67.0	36.0	2.6	2.6
concentration)	to	to	to	to
	3.8	7.1	1.2	1.2

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Two (2) charts were also presented. The first showing Average Dust Concentration by Plant and Operation in department Fibre Preparation, Carding, Spinning, Twisting and Weaving. The second chart was on Dust Concentration by Operation. The chart bars were identified as IMPINGER x10, MF Total Fibers, MF Fibers > 5µ, MF Fiber > 10µ and show the Fibres/cc when using the IMPINGER x10 vs the membrane filters counted at 430 X Phase Contrast.

All indications point to good dust control in the Textile Plants. Dr. Cralley cautioned us not to become complacent as it is important to keep improving systems at every opportunity and further, we do not know at this time what the data means with respect to health.

Dr. Cralley distributed another paper titled "Relationship of Impinger Counts to Fibre Concentration by Membrane Filters in Asbestos Textile Plants" prepared by H. E. Ayer, G. H. Edwards, J. H. Fanney, Jr., J. R. Lynch, U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The committee will review this paper and will discuss same at the next meeting. When both these papers are finalized, they will be published. The Textile phase of environmental studies will be completed by fall of 1965 and all data published will be of interest to the membership.

Dr. Cralley is meeting with the groups doing field studies. Also, with Insurance - Air Hygiene Groups, Seminar at the Universities of Texas, Oklahoma and Pittsburgh, Scientific and Medical Groups and at the International meeting, 1966 in Vienna, Switzerland.

During the discussion period several points were made:

1. There is a 25% error in dust counting.
2. Where there is a 5000 total count the fibre count is considerably lower around 1000.
3. Plants should make all data pertinent to this program available.
4. Dr. Cralley's group has completed 10 plants surveys. There are 2 remaining.

Portable Vacuum Cleaners

Two (2) units, 1) Suction Apparatus and 2) Compressed Air Unit were tried. Both units do a satisfactory cleaning of easy to reach areas but in equipment and close areas, they are not adequate.

The committee has agreed that for the present this investigation is complete and we do not know of any available vacuum unit that will replace air hose cleaning method used by most of us. We would request any member to report any new units as they become available so we can investigate their possible use. We are all very interested in retiring the air hose method at the earliest possible date.

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DiFect Dust Counter

Information received by Ken Nelson states Bausch and Lomb are developing a new Direct Dust Counter light and a photo electric cell to count all dust particles in the air. When this unit is developed it may eliminate much of the manual counting presently being done.

Three main factors make a unit such as this desirable:

1. Eliminate the human factor.
2. Take more readings in a shorter period of time.
3. Cost of unit estimated at \$3300.00.

Ken Nelson will follow up with Bausch and Lomb, and if a unit is ready by the October meeting, a request will be made to have it demonstrated at that time.

Consultant Industrial Hygiene Program

A suggestion has been received to discuss and investigate the possibility of Asbestos Textile Manufacturers retaining a consultant to supervise a uniform industrial hygiene program and to conduct periodic surveys of plants.

Generally, the consultant would check dust concentrations and noise levels in plants. He would then be available to give his findings as an outside report. This would be an aid to the industry whenever they are confronted with compensation cases, as he would have facts and history on actual in-plant conditions.

The committee is aware that more cases are going to be filed as time goes on and with this fact it was agreed all members will consider this suggestion and report their wishes at the next meeting. When reviewing, keep in mind

1. Hearing cases - 4 in New Jersey
1 in Quebec
1 case cost \$38,000 at age of 69-1/2 years.
2. Cost of Consultant approximately \$150 to \$200 per day plus expenses.

Automatic Loom Cleaning

Parks-Cramer have developed a new unit called Weave Cleaner-Travel Vac which has much higher velocity air - cooperating vacuum. They claim the unit is more effective than the compressed air hose and the broom without their disadvantages. Any member interested in further information should contact Parks-Cramer Company, Fitchburg, Mass./Charlotte, N. C./Atlanta, Ga.

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