FILE NAME: Owens-Corning (OC)

DATE: 1969

DOC#: OC115

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Local Union Grievance Form RE Dust and Working Conditions in OC Berlin Plant

of the United States and Canada

A.F.L.-C.I.O.

LOCAL UNION GRIEVANCE FORM

Local Union No. 231 No.

Company Owens-Corning Fiberglas Date 7-69

Plant and Location Berlin

Department

NATURE OF GRIEVANCE

INSTRUCTIONS: State exactly — What happened; When did it happen; Where did it happen; Why did it happen; What adjustment is sought — (TYPEWRITE OR PRINT)

Grievance covering dust and working conditions at the Berlin Plant.

See attached sheet.

Safety Committee

Walter Seth Townsend

Signed Lewis Sanders
Aggrieved Employee

Union President

Signed Charles F. Stack
Shop Steward

Grievance Chairman

Results of Grievance Meeting between Aggrieved Employee, Shop Steward and Foreman — (Step #1)

Signature of Foreman

(OVER)

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[illegible] working conditions and the 1968 working conditions agreement, in accordance with the new constitution of the G.B.B.A. that all safety matters should be made a grievance after they are discussed and the Union Committee feels that the Company is moving too slow on this serious matter, in the name of the Local, the officers of Local 231 and the Safety Committee file a grievance on the following items.

The general dust condition throughout the plant. We are calling for immediate correction of this dust condition.

Calling for a regular floor cleaning program that would be followed each shift of the operation of this plant.

Calling for dust correction at the Flatware Finishing Line, especially at the loading and packing station. These men are continuously being subject to a concentration of dust at the boxing end of this line. The entire line condition is not good.

Router area needs correcting, too.

The Batch Mixing Department needs correcting. The hazardous method of feeding batch to this department by a lift truck should be discontinued.

The method of cooling molds with large high-powered fans on the floor of the Production Department should be discontinued and another method installed. This keeps a constant agitation of dust spread throughout the production area.

The number of vehicles moving back and forth in the production area continuously stir up the dust and fumes. Some method should be devised to minimize this traffic and the dust on the floors at a minimum.

The use of fiberglas pads after they deteriate and burn. This keeps a constant amount of fiberglas dust and other dust into the atmosphere by the cages passing in front of cooling fans, dropping off of lift trucks and is a constant source of irritation to the employees body and eyes.

The saws need serious attention. A, B and C saws - a better dust exhaust.

Special Assembly Department. The Lines Nos. 1, 2 and 3 where the men strip, this dust should be collected instead of the method now used of blowing the dust into faces of the men.

The method of bulk loading material - the trucks discharge their load into the bulk system. Here there is carelessness and the dust from these trucks blows into the plant in a large cloud.

The ventilating of the Dowtherm area over the top of the Dowtherm pumps. Any ventilation coming into this area must pass over the pumps and contaminated with Dowtherm fumes before it gets into the plant. Another method of ventilating this area should be devised. Motor operated valves used in the Dowtherm area.

High noise level from machinery and steam leaks should be controlled.

The Local Union and the Safety Committee are further calling for an educational program to aware the employees of this plant of the seriousness of the contents of this dust so that everyone is very familiar with this fact and through their daily work will do whatever they can to reduce the amount of dust.

The Union is requesting a copy of the report made by men who have been checking the dust and fumes conditions in the plant over the last nine (9) months.

Attached to this grievance will be an additional list of requests by the Safety Committee for other improvements.

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Lung Spots - Employees with spots on the lung what is the company doing for the men in the way of a cure and what is a lung spot? Will these men endanger their family.

The Incinerator
This area has stacked bags, floor dust, and junk that blow around the plant in the wind.

Ventilating the plant during the summer heat.