FILE NAME: Uniroyal (UNIR)

DATE: 1959 July 25

DOC#: UNIR017

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: US Rubber Co. Report - Annual Asbeston Medical & X-Ray Surveys & Medical Control Program & Asbeston Plant Safety

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
UR 42

United States Rubber Company

STARK MILLS - REID MILLS
HOGANSVILLE, GA.

GENERAL OFFICE
TEXTILE DIVISION
1230 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK 20, N.Y.

July 25, 1959

We are now nearing the completion of another of our annual Asbeston medical and X-ray surveys. Although the purpose of this annual survey has been explained to each Asbeston employee, there still appear to be occasional questions and rumors about this program and about the Asbeston Plant.

In order to answer any questions you may have and to further describe this program and explain Company policies, we plan to meet with all Asbeston employees in small groups and on Company time. You will be notified by your overseer or shift supervisor of the time and place for your group meeting. I sincerely hope that this letter and these meetings will answer any questions you may have about our Asbeston Plant and our medical and X-ray program.

As early as 1939, when the Company first seriously considered establishing a manufacturing unit at Hogansville for the processing of asbestos yarns and fabrics, we were aware of the occupational hazard involved. Company engineers and outside consultants, including some of the best engineering firms in the United States, have made vast improvements in dust control since 1941 when the Asbeston Plant was built. For many years we have maintained dust counts well below the standard of safety recognized by the Georgia Department of Health. This is a continuing program, for we are constantly striving to further improve dust control equipment and methods.

In 1957, in order to improve our health and safety program in the Asbeston Plant, we supplemented the periodical chest X-ray survey with an annual physical examination for each Asbeston employee. To do this, we engaged an outstanding chest radiologist and internist, Dr. John G. Wells of Newnan, Georgia.

Since 1953, because of questionable lung changes which have occurred, we have deemed it advisable to remove a number of employees from the Asbeston Plant. With the present health and safety program it may be, from time to time, that other Asbeston employees will be moved, for

the purpose of this p ogram i. to move a person before harmful changes have occurred. Any physical changes unrelated to exposure from asbestos dust will be held as confidential by the Company and by the doctor, who will advise any employee of such findings and recommend that he consult his family physician.

Our Company has always fulfilled its legal and moral obligations. Our Asbeston operations are classified as an occupational hazard under the Georgia Workman's Compensation Act, and it is certainly the Company's intention to meet both our legal and moral obligations in any case of disability arising out of the exposure to asbestos dust.

With our present dust controls and health and safety program, we anticipate few, if any, cases of disability arising out of exposure to asbestos dust, beyond the possible cases we may have among some of our long-service employees who were exposed to dust during the early days of our Asbeston operations. No person in the Asbeston Plant will be allowed to continue working in the plant once the doctor recommends his removal. The Company recognizes that the employee may desire to continue employment with the Company and transfer to another job within the Company. The transfer will be arranged provided there is a proper job opening and the employee is qualified to fill the job opening.

If transfer within the Company cannot be arranged, it will be necessary to sever the employment relationship. The Company recognizes its responsibilities to employees, and where employees are terminated due to asbestos dust exposure, they will be paid termination allowance or disability allowance, whichever is applicable under the Company plan.

To further improve the medical control program, the Company has purchased additional physical testing equipment, as recommended by Dr. Wells. This equipment is being set up initially at Dr. Wells' office in Newnan, and in the event of any suspicious changes which are not clearly definable, the employee will be requested to undergo these tests as part of his physical examination.

The Asbeston Plant over the years has provided employment for hundreds of people in the Hogansville area. The products manufacturered have been valuable contributions to the home, to industry, and to our military establishments.

There are many industries which are classed as hazardous, some of which are far more hazardous than the processing of asbestos fibers. With our present dust control equipment, which we are constantly improving, with a good health and safety program, and with the cooperation of every employee in the Asbeston Plant in maintaining safe work conditions and safe working habits, we can expect to operate the Asbeston Plant safely and profitably in the years to come.

July 25, 1959

I plan to be present at the forthcoming meetings with Asbeston employee groups to help answer any questions that may be asked regarding our medical and X-ray program or about any of the topics I have attempted to cover in this letter.

Sincerely,

ma/ACL

A. C. Link
Manager

1980 Chrome

United States Rubber Company

STARK MILLS - REID MILLS
HOGANSVILLE, GA.

GENERAL OFFICE
TEXTILE DIVISION
1230 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK 20, N.Y.

July 25, 1958

Letter from A C Smith to Asbestos employees
Information to April 9, 1981
Deposition 1:30 P.M., Subpoena
To Ed Killian 9-12-K

We are now nearing the completion of another of our annual Asbeston medical and X-ray surveys. Although the purpose of this annual survey has been explained to each Asbeston employee, there still appear to be occasional questions and rumors about this program and about the Asbeston Plant.

In order to answer any questions you may have and to further describe this program and explain Company policies, we plan to meet with all Asbeston employees in small groups and on Company time. You will be notified by your overseer or shift supervisor of the time and place for your group meeting. I sincerely hope that this letter and these meetings will answer any questions you may have about our Asbeston Plant and our medical and X-ray program.

As early as 1939, when the Company first seriously considered establishing a manufacturing unit at Hogansville for the processing of asbestos yarns and fabrics, we were aware of the occupational hazard involved. Company engineers and outside consultants, including some of the best engineering firms in the United States, have made vast improvements in dust control since 1941 when the Asbeston Plant was built. For many years we have maintained dust counts well below the standard of safety recognized by the Georgia Department of Health. This is a continuing program, for we are constantly striving to further improve dust control equipment and methods.

In 1957, in order to improve our health and safety program in the Asbeston Plant, we supplemented the periodical chest X-ray survey with an annual physical examination for each Asbeston employee. To do this, we engaged an outstanding chest radiologist and internist, Dr. John G. Wells of Newnan, Georgia.

Since 1953, because of questionable lung changes which have occurred, we have deemed it advisable to remove a number of employees from the Asbeston Plant. With the present health and safety program it may be, from time to time, that other Asbeston employees will be moved, for

the purpose of this program is to move a person before harmful changes have occurred. Any physical changes unrelated to exposure from asbestos dust will be held as confidential by the Company and by the doctor, who will advise any employee of such findings and recommend that he consult his family physician.

Our Company has always fulfilled its legal and moral obligations. Our Asbeston operations are classified as an occupational hazard under the Georgia Workman's Compensation Act, and it is certainly the Company's intention to meet both our legal and moral obligations in any case of disability arising out of the exposure to asbestos dust.

With our present dust controls and health and safety program, we anticipate few, if any, cases of disability arising out of exposure to asbestos dust, beyond the possible cases we may have among some of our long-service employees who were exposed to dust during the early days of our Asbeston operations. No person in the Asbeston Plant will be allowed to continue working in the plant once the doctor recommends his removal. The Company recognizes that the employee may desire to continue employment with the Company and transfer to another job within the Company. The transfer will be arranged provided there is a proper job opening and the employee is qualified to fill the job opening.

If transfer within the Company cannot be arranged, it will be necessary to sever the employment relationship. The Company recognizes its responsibilities to employees, and where employees are terminated due to asbestos dust exposure, they will be paid termination allowance or disability allowance, whichever is applicable under the Company plan.

To further improve the medical control program, the Company has purchased additional physical testing equipment, as recommended by Dr. Wells. This equipment is being set up initially at Dr. Wells' office in Newnan, and in the event of any suspicious changes which are not clearly definable, the employee will be requested to undergo these tests as part of his physical examination.

The Asbeston Plant over the years has provided employment for hundreds of people in the Hogansville area. The products manufactured have been valuable contributions to the home, to industry, and to our military establishments.

There are many industries which are classed as hazardous, some of which are far more hazardous than the processing of asbestos fibers. With our present dust control equipment, which we are constantly improving, with a good health and safety program, and with the cooperation of every employee in the Asbeston Plant in maintaining safe work conditions and safe working habits, we can expect to operate the Asbeston Plant safely and profitably in the years to come.

July 25, 1950

I plan to be present at the forthcoming meetings with Asbestos employee groups to help answer any questions that may be asked regarding our medical and X-ray program or about any of the topics I have attempted to cover in this letter.

Sincerely,

A. C. Link

ma/ACL

A. C. Link
Manager

C0006864

DRAFT

United States Rubber Company

STARK MILLS · REID MILLS
HOGANSVILLE GA

GENERAL OFFICE
TEXTILE DIVISION
NEW YORK 20 N.Y.

July 23, 195[illegible]

Dear Edna and Gladstone:

We are now nearing the completion of another of our annual Asbeston medical and X-ray surveys. Although the purpose of this annual survey has been explained to each Asberton employee, there still appear to be occasional questions and rumors about this program and about the Asbeston Plant.

In order to answer any questions you may have and to further describe this program and explain Company policies, we plan to meet with all Asbeston employees, in small groups and on Company time. You will be notified by your overseer or shift supervisor of the time and place for your group meeting. I sincerely hope that this letter and these meetings will answer any questions you may have about our Asbeston plant and our medical and X-ray program.

As early as 1939, when the Company first seriously considered establishing a manufacturing unit at Hogansville for the processing of asbestos yarns and fabrics, we were aware of the occupational hazard involved. Company engineers and outside consultants, including some of the best engineering firms in the United States, have made vast improvements in dust control since 1941, when the Asbeston plant was built. For many years we have maintained dust counts well below the standard of safety established by the Georgia Department of Health. This is a continuing program, for we are constantly striving to further improve dust control equipment and methods.

In 1957, in order to improve our health and safety program in the Asbeston Plant, we supplemented the periodical chest X-ray survey with an annual physical examination for each Asbeston employee. To do this, we engaged an outstanding chest radiologist and internist, Dr. John G. Wells, M. D., of Newnan, Georgia.

Since 1953, because of questionable lung changes which have occurred, we have deemed it advisable to remove a number of employees from the Asbeston Plant. With the present health and safety program it is likely, from time to time, that other Asbeston employees will be moved, for the purpose of this program is to move a person before harmful changes have occurred. Any physical changes unrelated to exposure from asbestos dust will be held as confidential by the Company and by the doctor, who will advise any employee of such findings and recommend that he consult his family physician.

Our Company has always fulfilled its legal and moral obligations. Our Asbeston operations are classified as an occupational hazard under the Georgia Workmen's Compensation Act and it is certainly the Company's intention to meet both our

0001001

legal and moral obligations in any case of disability arising out of the exposure to asbestos dust.

With our present dust control & health and safety program we anticipate few, if any, cases of disability arising out of exposure to asbestos dust, beyond the possible cases we may have among some of our long-service employees who were exposed to dust during the early days of our Asbeston operations. No person in the Asbeston Plant will be allowed to continue working in the plant once the doctor recommends his removal. The Company recognizes that the employee may desire to continue employment with the Company and transfer to another job within the Company. The transfer will be arranged provided there is a proper job opening and the employee is qualified to fill the job opening.

If transfer within the Company can not be arranged, it will be necessary to sever the employment relationship. The Company recognizes its responsibilities to employees and where employees are terminated due to Asbestos dust exposure, they will be paid termination allowance or disability allowance, whichever is applicable under the Company plan.

To further improve the medical control program, the Company has purchased additional physical testing equipment, as recommended by Dr. Wells. This equipment is being set up initially at Dr. Wells' office in Newman, and in the event of any suspicious changes which are not clearly definable, the employee will be requested to undergo these tests as part of his physical examination.

The Asbeston Plant over the years has provided employment for hundreds of people in the Hogansville area. The products manufactured have been valuable contributions to the home, to industry, and to our military establishments.

There are many industries which are classed as hazardous, some of which are far more hazardous than the processing of asbestos fibers. With our present dust control equipment, which we are constantly improving, with good health and safety program, and with the cooperation of every employee in the Asbeston Plant in maintaining safe work conditions and safe working habits, we can expect to operate the Asbeston Plant safely and profitably in the years to come.

I plan to be present at the forthcoming meetings with Asbeston employee groups to help answer any questions that may be asked regarding our medical and X-ray program or about any of the topics I have attempted to cover in this letter.

Sincerely yours,

A. C. Link
Manager

ACL:lr