

X Ref - Point Comfort

R. E. PODHORA
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DEPT.
POINT COMFORT OPERATIONS

DR. M. F. JONES
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
POINT COMFORT OPERATIONS

(origin Pers. Protection file) ccc → Mr. T. B. Bonney - Pittsburgh

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RE: L.A.S.L. RESPIRATORY PROTECTION SEMINAR, KANSAS CITY, MO. (COST \$290)

At your request, the following is an evaluation of the seminar I attended July 20-22, presented by Messrs. John Pritchard and W. Jay Wenzel at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, a branch of the University of California. Copies of their brochure and class subject breakdown are attached.

Only nine persons attended, six of which were from OSHA, two from industry (TWA and Alcoa), and one sales representative from Willson Products. The small class was an advantage for a good learning situation.

Early the first day, an exam containing 36 questions with multiple choice answers was given. I found out how lacking my knowledge was of respiratory protection regulations and etc. The exam was reviewed thoroughly the last afternoon.

We learned about: the early history of respiratory protection, types of equipment and how to select, test, use, maintain and inspect various respiratory equipment. In my opinion, the most important information was related to:

1. The 11 commandments of OSHA. These explain industry's responsibility for a respiratory program. (See copy attached.) Note: A program for the selection, issuance, cleaning, maintenance and control of respiratory equipment is mandatory by OSHA.
2. Explanation and interpretation of regulations in 29 CFR 1910.134 (sourced from ANSI Standard Z88.2 1969).
3. Supplementary regulations.
4. Approved respirators.
5. Respirator protection checklist.
6. Example of a respirator procedure program.

Two experienced OSHA compliance officers recommended that the "variance" route should be used by industry where non-NIOSH approved respirator cartridges are used such as for mercury vapor at the Chlor-Alkali plant. All that is required is a document requesting a variance because there are no approved respirator cartridges for mercury vapor as yet. I plan to investigate this further.

There are at least two good self-contained breathing apparatus units (SCBA)

 **ALCOA**

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