

The RUBEROID Co.
RESEARCH LABORATORY
SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N. J.

For Attention Mr. Paul Gordon - GLOUCESTER

Date May 23, 1957

Copy to Messrs. Walters - Talbot - Davis

Reference Mr. Walters' letter of May 21st

Subject UNION CARBIDE COMPANY

You have a copy of Tom Walters' letter that puts forth certain questions regarding the expanded use of our insulation.

I presume the reasons we cannot make a 6" thick block are:

- (a) We don't have this size pan or milling facilities.
- (b) They take extra autoclave time which we cannot spare.
- (c) The drying time would be very long.
- (d) Two 3" blocks, cemented together, have been found unacceptable.

Please let us know just why we cannot make a 6" thick block and what it would take to do it.

In the second paragraph of Tom's letter, I think he is confusing the word "strong" with the word "soft." In order to satisfy the requirements of being able to have pipe covering conform to a traced line, the inner core of the covering would have to have very high indentation characteristics. It would have to be soft or spongy to allow the tracer lines to embed rather than act as a focal point over which the covering would crack. Perhaps you could suggest an inner layer composition that could stand this treatment and fit in with our operation. I certainly don't have any ideas in this connection. It would appear that it would require practically all fiber and very little binder. The binder, in this case, would have to be better than a regular calcium hydrosilicate.

I am sure that we could add a suitable dye to our 1800° Calsilite to distinguish it from standard material. Water dispersable carbon blacks—such as Columbia Carbon's "Aqualak B"—would produce a distinctly gray material and would not be affected by a high-pressure steam cure. Other colors could be obtained with various dyes. It is my impression that Johns-Manville already uses carbon black in their Thermobestos and I believe someone else uses a red tint. I presume our Sales Department would prefer green.

If Mr. Walters will express himself on this point, we can work on the selection of the proper color here in the laboratory.

P. S. BERTON

PJB:bk

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