



intracompany memo

JAN 19 1983

to Ms. Andrea Swanner
from Mr. C. W. Lehnert
subject Gypsum Association Asbestos
Investigation

location Atlanta, Ga.
location Decatur, Ga.
date December 30, 1982



Enclosed are pages duplicated from the Gypsum Association Semi-Annual Report To The Membership, dated 3/15/74.

Undoubtedly there were similar reportings in our Technical Committee Minutes but we do not have any records of these minutes.

C. W. L.
C. W. L.

CWL/dt
Enclosures

1. A task force, consisting of among others, legal and market research personnel, has prepared and is following carefully a submittal to the Federal Cost of Living Council in an effort to exempt the entire gypsum industry from wage and price controls.

2. An inter-committee task force, consisting of safety directors, qualified technical people, industrial hygienists and gypsum wall-board application specialists, completed a field test of member company joint compound products in the mixing and sanding field operations to determine airborne impurities.

3. Materials handling, safety and motion picture experts formed a task force to produce a unique training film, specifically on the safe operation of high lift equipment in the movement, storage and loading of gypsum products.

4. Production management people have met continually during the past six months with traffic managers and materials handling experts of our industry to conduct negotiations with the Association of American Railroads on the publication of mandatory AAR rules on the loading of bulkhead flatcars with gypsum board products. During the past three years, this project alone has saved the gypsum industry over ten times the assessment of the Gypsum Association.

5. A task force made up of production, technical, building code and promotional committee members will begin the most important program of conversion to the metric system. This extremely complex

this work will be completed by the next meeting, leading to a revision of the current ASTM standard.

Agreement has not been reached on a testing program to update the Association publication on gypsum sheathing. Since this publication is in need of revision, information and application instructions will be re-written and technical data eliminated until such time as meaningful data on present day products can be developed.

Metric measures for all gypsum products and characteristics were developed and reviewed by the Technical Committee. Special attention was given to fire and sound ratings. These ratings will not be affected if the proposed measures are adopted. These metric measure proposals have been submitted to the Manufacturing and Mining Committee for review at their April meeting.

The asbestos-dust program in mixing and sanding of joint compounds has been completed. Results of dust analysis have been received from Clayton Associates and generally agree with results obtained by several member companies. A real problem exists in that siliceous dust is above allowable OSHA limits and asbestos is either borderline or above the limits during mixing of dry joint compounds and during sanding of joints. The special Association committee that conducted this program is reviewing the results and recommendations will be forthcoming in the Technical Committee Chairman's verbal report.

Mobile home fires are receiving increased attention from the government. New York State has passed a law to go into effect July 15, 1974 requiring a maximum flame spread of 75 on all interior