AIR HYGIENE & MFG. COMMITTEES

Asbestos Textile Institute

October 7, 1971 - Savannah Inn & Country Club, Savannah, Ga.

In attendance:

K.A. Roberts - Johns-Manville Corp. (Acting chairman)
C.L. Sheckler - " " " (Chm. Environmental Health Comm.)
G.M. Armstrong - American Asbestos Textile Corp.
J.L. Rainey - " " " "
H.H. Walter - " " " "
L.F. Dieringer - Uniroyal, Inc.
B.E. Carden - " "
R.C. Hunt - " "
J.L. Mitchell - H.K. Porter Company, Inc.
E.C. Bratt - " " "
E.A. Farrell - Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Ltd.
Rafael E. Arnal - Manufacturas Multiples S.A. (Caracas, Venezuela)
Y. Sato - Nippon Asbestos Co., Ltd. (USA representative)

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT ATI-124

***** Minutes *****

This meeting was, in part, held as a joint committee meeting with the Environmental Health Committee. The meeting was opened with a brief review of some of the environmental protection equipment being used by some of our members.

Mr. J.L. Rainey presented a paper entitled "Moist Spinning Process" written by Mr. J.W. Weber, Chairman of the Board, American Asbestos Textile Corporation. Mr. Rainey discussed the data in the paper which indicates that a stronger, more dust free yarn is obtained when moisture, in the form of water or an emulsion, is applied at the rub apron of the carding machine. While the process was developed primarily for the purpose of reducing the atmospheric dust count on the delivery end of the carding machines (where the greater part of the card-tenders time is spent) it has been found that other advantages result in subsequent operations as explained in Mr. Weber's paper which is included with these minutes. Committee members were most appreciative of Mr. Webers cooperation in supplying the results of his extensive experimental development work for the benefit of our industry. Members desiring further information on this process may write direct to Mr. J.W. Weber, American Asbestos Textile Corporation, P.O. Box 228, Norristown, Pa. 19404 (USA).

Considerable time was spent in reviewing the Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA) and the anticipated Emission Standards for asbestos soon to be established by the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Sheckler urged that the ATI member companies undertake to collect industry plant data and employee data that would be helpful to AIA/NA in testifying before sub-committee hearings in Washington, D.C.. At the present time our industry, as such, lacks the facts to refute or challenge statements so adverse to asbestos that have received such wide publicity in the last several years. It was therefore the joint recommendation of the Air Hygiene & Mfg. and the Environmental Health Committees that the Institute establish a program to obtain

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ACL Doc 21132 · Page 1 of 4
asbestosclaims.law/library/21132/1

meaningful data for use in guiding national standards. It was suggested that a start could be made by contacting Dr. Lewis J. Cralley, formerly in charge of Division of Epidemiology & Special Services, USPHS, Dept. of HEW, under whose supervision in-plant surveys of asbestos plants and employees were made by Federal authorities over a period of many years. Dr. Cralley is presently employed as a consultant to Marcus Key,M.D., Head of the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health. It is hoped that the data now in the Dept. of HEW files can be released for possible benefit to the asbestos textile industry.

Following the meeting, arrangements were made to ship the ATI's Bausch & Lomb Dust Counter to the American Asbestos Textile Corp. plant at Norristown,Pa. It will be shipped from GARLOCK INC.

Respectfully submitted,

K.A. Roberts, Acting chairman

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MOIST SPINNING PROCESS

by:- J.W. Weber

Moisture is applied to roving at the rub-apron section of the carding machines. The moisture may be in the form of water or an emulsion. Sufficient moisture is added to increase the total water content of the roving to from 5 to 7 percent. Since the moisture is applied by the rub aprons to the fibers at the surface of the roving, this process is particularly effective in preventing asbestos from flying off the roving and yarn during the following spinning, twisting and winding operations. In relatively dry roving and yarn, the asbestos fibers adhering to the outside tend to becom airborne.

The application of moisture to the outer surface of the roving also results in the retention of a relatively lofty yarn (which is desirable),rather than the creation of the condensed condition of an extruded yarn.

While the process has been developed primarily for the purpose of reducing the atmospheric dust count on the delivery end of the carding machines (where the greater part of the card-tender's time is spent), and in subsequent operations such as spinning, twisting, and winding, it has been found that this process imparts considerable strength to the roving and thereby results in greatly reduced roving breaks during spinning. This further reduces the dust count at the spinning frames, since broken ends on the bobbins raise a virtual dust storm. We have found further that, since the moist roving is in a somewhat more compact condition when being wound on the card spools, considerably more yardage can be wound on spools of the same diameter than can be achieved with relatively dry roving.

In order to determine the relative merits of moist vs relatively dry roving at the spinning operation, asbestos fiber counts were taken, results of which are indicated in the following table:-

(See Page 3)

Asbestos Textile Institute document ATI-124: Asbestos Textile Institute Air Hygiene & Manufacturing Committee Mi...
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ACL Doc 21132 · Page 2 of 4
asbestosclaims.law/library/21132/2

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE

Minutes - ASBESTOS ADVISORY COMMITTEE meeting

October 7, 1971 - Savannah, Ga.

***** Minutes *****

The Asbestos Advisory Committee met with all member companies in attendance.

The main topic of our discussions concerned the legislation which either has been promulgated, or which is pending, regarding the use in certain applications of asbestos products.

We are aware of the instructions which the Navy Department has issued to its repair facilities regarding the use of asbestos textile products; and we are told that other, more stringent notices are awaiting issuance.!

The impact and effect of these instructions, adverse to asbestos products, is severe, and they present us with a most frustrating situation. It is frustrating because we are forced to continually maintain a defensive position -- and we have very little evidence at hand to refute the charges which are levelled at the use of asbestos products.

However, such evidence possibly does exist. Some seven years ago, Dr. Lewis J. Cralley of the Dept. of Health,Education & Welfare, undertook a study of the asbestos textile industry in an effort to truly measure the health hazards involved in the manufacture of asbestos products. This study has never been completed, and only fragmentary reports have been issued.

Accordingly, the Asbestos Advisory Committee has requested that Mr. C.L. Sheckler, Chairman of the ATI Environmental Health Committee, meet with Dr. Cralley and try to obtain the following information:-

(1) What is the exact status of the Cralley Report?

(2) What can the ATI do to assist in completing it?

(3) What are the future plans regarding the effective use of Dr. Cralley's report once it is completed?

In addition we have asked Mr. Sheckler to extend an invitation to Dr. Cralley to attend our next meeting which is to be held in Charleston, S.C. on February 2-3,1972.

We look forward to the report of Mr. Sheckler's visit with Dr. Cralley with great interest.!

Respectfully submitted,

E.A. Morris
Chairman

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ACL Doc 21132 · Page 3 of 4 asbestosclaims.law/library/21132/3

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE PRESENTATION
BY N. W. HENDRY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 1971

Shipments of Canadian asbestos fibre for the first seven months of 1971 were 892,804 tons or 3.3% higher than for the same period in 1970.

The availability of all grades of spinning fibre is good and this situation can be expected to continue for some time in the future.

The application of the U.S. surcharge does not apply to asbestos fibre, but indirectly the surcharge will affect sales of asbestos fibre to such countries as Japan and West Germany. Prior to the application of the surcharge some weakness in demand was evident in many of the International markets.

World production of asbestos fibre in 1970 was 3,122,040 tons versus 3,033,250 tons in 1969 or an increase of approximately 5%.

The problems related to asbestos and health are of continuing concern to the asbestos fibre producers. It is unfortunate indeed that the press representatives continue to take statements out of context and to be more interested in sensationalism rather than facts.

Finally, the following comments are pertinent to the status of some new asbestos producers, viz:

a) The new producer in Australia is forecast to be in production in early 1972 at a rate of 75,000 tons per year.

b) The asbestos producer in Brazil, located north of Brazilia, is expected to be increased from 13,000 to 27,000 tons.

c) The Colombian asbestos fibre prospect could reach the production stage at a rate of approximately 25,000 tons per year.

d) Work is being continued to develop an asbestos producer in Central Colombia. If financing can be arranged the production rate is expected to be 25,000 tons annually.

e) Work is being continued by Cerro Corporation toward the evaluation of an asbestos deposit in Central Greece.

N. W. Hendry
General Sales Manager
Canadian Johns-Manville Asbestos Limited

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ACL Doc 21132 · Page 4 of 4 asbestosclaims.law/library/21132/4