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Dust and Fume Abatement Project Evaluation

In order to safeguard the health of employees through control of industrial health hazards, it is essential to obtain dependable, objective data on conditions that may cause unhygienic exposure.

Control of an industrial health hazard is usually complex because of the factors that are involved. For that reason, objective solution usually calls for the combined skills and judgment of a number of specialists in our company.

Recent experience in Johns-Manville has proved the merit of a "task team" approach to evaluating a project for dust control.

Therefore, on all projects related to dust and fume abatement it will be J-M practice to use the task team method. This term is to prepare a thorough analysis and an evaluation of the project. The plant manager will appoint the task team from the following sources:

A methods engineer from Industrial Engineering Department
The safety engineer or person responsible for safety at plant
The production superintendent or other production supervisory person concerned
An engineer from Plant Engineering or Maintenance Department

The plant manager assigns the project and designates who will be responsible for its completion.

The manner in which the task team proceeds with its assignment is outlined in detail in the Industrial Health Section of the Standard Practices Manual; see subject IH-56, copy of which is attached.

E. W. Saffian

Attachment (IH-56)

CC: [redacted]
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Mr. A. R. Fisher
E. H. Jackson

Manual of Standard Practices
Safety - Appendix II

Attached is copy of the Threshold Limit Values for 1957 as published by the American Conference of Governmental Hygienists.

This data is to be used (with one exception) as our J-M standard in evaluating the hazard potential in our work environments. Most state and city departments of health refer to this list of values as standard.

The one exception is the threshold value for asbestos. The results of the Saranac Laboratory experimental research indicate that the fibers 10 - 15 microns and longer are the fibrosis producing agents—not the dust. Recent publications from England have confirmed this conclusion. Although this information has been forwarded the ACGIH, they have not as yet modified their standard of 5 million particles (under 10 microns) per cubic foot.

Our tentative standard to be applied to asbestos exposures is 1 million fibers per cubic foot.

Questions concerning the toxicity of substances not included in this listing should be forwarded to this office.

E. H. Jackson

EHJ:ED
Enclosure

Mail notification per CD 2/4/57