January 6, 1958

Mr. Patrick A. Christel
Safety Director
Hamilton Manufacturing Co.
Two Rivers, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Christel:

Your request for information concerning the potential health hazard of Colorlith dust has been referred to me for reply.

Both silica and asbestos fiber are used in the formation of Colorlith. These materials are potentially hazardous if exposure to sufficient quantities over long periods of time is involved.

The state in which you operate may have standards to apply to exposures to these materials, but if not, the standards of the American Conference of Governmental Hygienists should be referred to.

For free quarts silica, the 1957 list of threshold limits published by the A. C. G. I. H. shows the maximum allowable concentration to be 5 m.p.p.c.f. for materials containing 50% or more quarts silica, and 20 m.p.p.c.f. for materials having 5% to 50% quarts silica. In our experience, the latter standard would apply to the dusts arising from the sawing and grinding of the Colorlith board.

The 1957 A. C. G. I. H. list shows the threshold limit for asbestos dust to be 5 m.p.p.c.f.

If you desire any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Very truly yours,

Kenneth W. Smith, M.D.
Medical Director

cc: H. M. Ball
W. E. Vogel (3)
E. W. Korty, Chicago
R. W. Bauman, Milwaukee

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