MINUTES OF THE ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE

[redacted]

September 5, 1957

IN ATTENDANCE:

W. C. Atkinson - Johns-Manville Corp.
John Cerney - Tallman McCluskey Fabrics Co.
H. M. Jackson - Johns-Manville Corp.
A. E. May - Keasbey & Mattison Co.
R. D. Smith - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

1. Considerable discussion was given to the very interesting report from Turner-Newell, "Estimation of the Dust Hazard in the Factory Using the Greenburg-Smith Impinger". Numerous differences in the Thermal precipitator and Greenburg-Smith Impinger techniques result in the evaluation of different portions of the airborne contaminants. Research in comparative collection efficiencies of various sampling techniques has indicated that there is no positive correlation between the Thermal precipitator and the Greenburg-Smith Impinger. Since the Greenburg-Smith, or midget impinger, is the recognized instrument of both Federal and State health agencies, it is incumbent on us to evaluate our work environment by the methods prescribed by the U. S. Public Health Service, upon which our health standards are based.

   The comparison of dust levels between the English and U. S. plants, as a means of evaluating control efficiencies, is most interesting, however, and this Committee hopes that future work may be done. It is suggested, since the techniques are efficient in different particle size ranges, that comparison be made of those particle sizes common to both instruments.

   One member company reports that recent average counts by the Greenburg-Smith Impinger taken at positions comparable (insofar as possible) to those described in the Turner-Newell report were as follows:

Feeding card	30 - 90
End cards	3.2 - 12.0

2. It was reported that the epidemiological study by the Industrial Hygiene Foundation, sponsored by the Q. A. M. A., is in the final stages. The report probably will be submitted prior to our next meeting. Request will be made to the Q. A. M. A. for copy of the report for perusal and discussion by our Committee.

3. Mr. R. D. Smith reported a series of dust counts from the Charleston plant indicated the effectiveness of a program of system maintenance. Regular, frequent check of air velocities and pressures, constant and consistent tightening of the system (leak repairs, valve adjustment, etc.), redesigning and re-alignment of the system and hoods to get proper balance predicated on adequate capacity, has resulted in consistently low levels of airborne dust.

Card room	.20 to 2.12 m.p.p.c.f.	25 samples
Weave room	.28 to 1.63 "	12 "
Twisting	.33 to 1.48 "	8 "
Spinning	.18 to 2.80 "	18 "

841

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In comparison to the health threshold limit of 5.0 m.p.p.c.f., these levels are evidence of excellent control.

4. The subject of vacuum cleaning of machines and work areas, the application of fixed and portable systems was reviewed. Two members will report on their experience and developments at the next meeting.

5. It was agreed that the agenda for the next meeting would include:

   a. Vacuum cleaning for dust control
   b. Q. A. H. A. epidemiological study
   c. Respirators - standards and applications
   d. Dust control in fibre preparation rooms
   e. Review of considerations of the Fibre Evaluation Committee.

6. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the leadership of Mr. D. R. Holmes, Aston Hill Mfg. Co., as Chairman of the Air Hygiene and Manufacturing Committee and its regret of the necessity for his withdrawal from this activity.

7. It was the unanimous recommendation of the Committee that Mr. A. E. May be designated Chairman by the Board of Governors for the 1957-58 term of office.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. Jackson, Acting Chairman

85

CRMC-Motley1000-Subj-000576