REPORT OF CALL

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
UC-541

CC for
R. T. Larkin
J. W. Rawlings
A. J. Lyons
Niagara Falls File
King City, File

Calidria ASBESTOS

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

RECEIVED
SEP 20 1971
UCC-CALIDRIA
KING CITY, CA

By T. P. Norris

Date 9-7-71

Full Name United States Gypsum Co. Address 101 S. Wacker Dr. Chicago, Ill Mfrs. of	Interviewed John Schroeder, Enviromental Dir. Jim Cornell, Safety Dir.

In a recent call at their Des Plaines, Ill., research center we learned [illegible] of U..S. Gypsum's growing concern over Asbestos Toxicology, and their desire to reformulate around asbestos wherever possible. This call was an attempt to explain our position and to place the problem in the proper perspective.

John Schroeder, has corporate responsibility regarding dust levels and emissions, outside the plants. Jim Cornell, same type responsibility, inside the plants. Both men feel that USG has long term commitments to asbestos, that at present there is not an acceptable substitute, and that they are not out to replace it in their present formulations, this is contrary to what the Research Center has advised. Where individual City and State legislation has banned certain types of asbestos applications, USG will comply with those local issues. New York and Chicago have banned sprayed asbestos applications, this includes the sprayed acoustic types, and will affect future sales of T-135. New York labor unions demand asbestos be removed from all paint formulations.

Our pellet story was explained in detail as a means of reducing in-plant dust levels and also as a means of reducing freight cost by shipping in bulk cars. There is an interest here as it could make the Dallas, Texas, plant switch to SG-210 appear more attractive. However the loss of business at Dallas is not entirely due to price. Other circumstances were also responsible for this action. The bulk handling booklet was left with Jim Cornell, who intends to investigate this concept in detail. On his next swing to the west coast he would like to tour our King City plant and observe our dust levels and grinding equipment. In his opinion the South Gate, Calif. plant would most likely be the first plant to go on bulk, as they have the storage capacity, but would need the necessary grinding equipment.

REPORT OF CALL

CC: G. Vessels - King City
T. P. Morris - Chicago
H. B. Rhodes - Niagara Falls
W. C. Thurber - NY 38
KC Files
NF Files

Calidria asbestos

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By J. E. Walsh

Date 9/5/74

Full Name	U. S. Gypsum	Interviewed	
Address	Chamblee, Georgia	Chris Cristofersen, Plant Manager	
Mfrs. of	Tapejoint muds & sprays		

Call made to check recent 2 pallet T-135 order and attempt to sell SG-210.

The reason for the recent 2 pallet T-135 purchase Cristofersen advised, is that they have dropped their asbestos-less acoustical spray formulation which just didn't sell and have returned to the original T-135 formula. Usage is expected to be a continuous one at about a level of 2500 lbs/month.

GV I'm down to one pallet now in Atlanta that I'm holding for Old North. Please adjust the T-135 inventory level for Atlanta to include this new, unexpected business.

We then discussed the possibility of our participating in their volume asbestos requirements and the following information was developed: they now use 120M lb split cars of 7RF2 and 7R05 ex J M Canada. The RF2 is for joint cements and R05 for sprays. Usage level is two cars per month with a portion of the material going to their Jacksonville, Florida plant. All cars are taken into Chamblee and Jacksonville's requirements are trucked down to them as their present volume doesn't warrant ordering a carload. According to Cristofersen, USG has 40% of the mud and spray market in the Southeast. Canadian service is poor and no local backup stock is maintained in Atlanta, hence the reason for our getting an occasional 210 order. The salesman hasn't been around in over a year, and the office never seems to know what is going on or advise them when an order isn't shipped on time. Presented Chris with the delivered cost of 210 to Chamblee, our packaging and service story and it looks like we may have a chance. He will review it with his Quality Control man and with Dave Thomas, the P. A., in Galena Park as well as their South Gate people and make a decision based on all the factors involved whether they should switch to 210. We have going for us the 30 lb bag (easier to handle and allows for better batch adjustments) and service (Chris seems to be pro UCC and our back-up stock helps). The economic and quality answers will be developed internally, but his comment was that if we were competitive in all respects, service would be our biggest asset. J M also supplies all pallets shrink-wrapped at an additional cost that I was not able to determine and we would have to be able to supply our 210 the same way. The dust results that USG people have taken at the plant show they run around 4 fibers on the TWA and changes are in the wind now to get them down below the '76 requirement of 2 in order that they can continue to use asbestos. Having tried previously to make an asbestos-less redi-mix mud and failed, the impression I got during this call was that USG, having tried and failed to formulate

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asbestos out of their products, is now getting around to the thinking that they will do what is needed to be in compliance with the regulations and learn to live with the health question.

JW Review the economics again with Dave Thomas in Galena Park and phone Chris around 10-1 to see where they are at.

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Calidria ASBESTOS

c for T. P. Norris
W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
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UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By E. J. Kleber

Date 11/6/74

Full Name U.S. Gypsum Company South Gate, CA Address Mfrs. of	Interviewed Mort Higgs - Technical Director

BACKGROUND

A call was made on U.S.Gypsum in June to compare fiber counting techniques with them. Their fiber counts were averaging in the neighborhood of 3 fibers/cc while an insurance company survey indicated levels of closer to 10 fibers/cc. Counts performed at their plant showed this same difference. Our counts, on the same filter, were 9 fibers/cc and theirs were 3 fibers/cc. It became obvious that their calculating procedure, sent to them from the home office in Chicago, was in error. Mr. Higgs said he would try to clear the matter up with the research center and let me know their feelings. He called to let us know what happened.

OBSERVATIONS

Mort began by saying that after looking over the matter, the research people acknowledged that they had made a rather serious mistake. As I understand it, all the U.S. Gypsum plants have been living in a dream world getting counts that are nowhere near accurate. This new development has set off something of a panic since all of a sudden plants that thought they were well within the limits are now at the ragged edge or over. Mort is interested in any help we can give him regarding methods of keeping the fiber counts down to a reasonable level. He also mentioned that the environmental people in Chicago would be appreciative of help. Told him I would gather what we have and call him back shortly with information on techniques, packaging, etc.

On an entirely different matter, Mort said he has been recently involved in checking out competitors' asbestos-free tape joint compounds and has two observations: (1) They are universally second rate and (2) most have replaced asbestos with fibrous talc. He claims they could use asbestos-free TJC's if they had to but really would rather not.

He is also aware of the great spraying debate in California and the flap about sanding in Oregon. He expressed hope that both issues can be resolved.

To briefly summarize, U.S. Gypsum seems to be in a panic over all the asbestos/health questions currently being debated. I am sure any suggestions we have to offer, particularly on in-plant improvements of fiber levels, would be

greatly appreciated. The questions, in my mind, are: Do we stand to gain anything by getting together with their Chicago people if Mort thinks it is appropriate? What can we offer U.S. Gypsum plants in the way of lower fiber levels that the Canadian's cannot?

One final comment. I intimated to Mort that we could not spend a great deal of time with corporate people on their problems if we do not stand to gain anything by it. Mort understands, but he, of course, is just involved with the South Gate plant whose business we already have. Obviously, we will try to assist the South Gate plant in any way we can.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

EJK Check back with Mort with suggestions on how to lower fiber levels.

JLM/HBR/REB et al How far do we pursue this?

Typed 11/7/74
cjb

REPORT OF CALL

Calidria ASBESTOS

2

cc for T. P. Norris
W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
KC-File ✓
NF-File

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By H. B. Rhodes

Date 1/7/75

Full Name U. S. Gypsum 4500 Ardine St. Address Southgate, CA 90280 Mfrs. of	Interviewed Rich Usack - Production Sup., Paint Dept. Cris Chamberlen - Project Eng. Boise McBride - Eng. Superintendent Mort Higgs

OBJECTIVE

This meeting developed out of U. S. Gypsum - Southgate's request for consultation on ways to handle their asbestos dust problmms and for a visit to King City to see what UCC did regarding dust control.

OBSERVATIONS

We met initially at the Southgate plant and observed their operations. Both dry-mix and ready-mix TJC are manufactured. The dry used Canadian asbestos and SG-210 is used in the ready-mix. It became evident in the initial discussions that they were aware of the field toxicology problems in the TJC area but were not too concerned. Their main interest was to get their own plant operations well in complience with the 2 fiber limit. Strangely enough they have not yet been OSHA inspected.

In the Southgate plant hoods have been installed where asbestos is dumped. They have been modified once and although exact levels were not revealed, they seem to be getting more than 2 fibers and somewhat less the 10 fibers. The operator dumps steadily for an 8 hour shift and now wears a respirator.

At the present, the bag is cut and dumped and then stuffed into a large plastic disposal bag attached to one side of the hood. Dry material in the cone of the hood is pushed down with a short-handled brush. Inlet air velocity is 100 fpm and goes to 200 fpm at a set of baffles towards the back of the hood.

It looked like the main problem was that the operator puts his head into the hood during bag disposal and brushing. We discussed the possibility of some modifications with Plexiglas to keep his head out and a longer brush. Mr. Usack also felt that the use of 35 lb. bags which had eliminated the need to cut a bag and set part of it aside for the next batch had removed one of their problems. They will undoubtedly request that we continue to supply them in 35 lb. bags.

Their other problem area was the dry-mix bagger. The valve-pack bags are filled with an auger packer which reverses and has a long modified tip to help clear the bag spout. There was a small vacuum pickup at the nozzle. In spite of this they still have the bag spout "dribble" problem that we do.

This is a fairly slow moving operation with the bags hand stacked on a pallet. The bags were not packed hard. It looked to me like a tuck-in sleeve would clear things up.

Following the L.A. meeting all of the U. S. Gypsum people except Mort Higgs visited the King City plant. Bob Kronkhyte gave us a well-conducted tour of the plant with a detailed examination of the dust control equipment. Both the bag and pallet shrink film equipment was in operation and were quite impressive. They took quite a few notes and said they had picked up a number of ideas that could be applied to their situations.

During the course of the meetings we discussed the possibility of the use of pellets. They had looked at this in some detail several years ago and were a little vague on details. In general it appeared that SG-200 was too gritty and HPP worked but was too expensive. There is now a new set of conditions, however, regarding dust, and they took samples and plan to review the entire situation.

Some interest was also expressed in automatic bag openers. The names
HBR of 3 prospective manufacturers were supplied. I agreed to see what I could find out about the performance of the Taunton Engineering machine.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

U. S. Gypsum does not appear to me to have a serious in-plant problem at Southgate and they seem to be moving to handle it. This meeting and the time spent looked like a lot more effort on their part than was needed but we responded to a large customer and they were most appreciative.

It is suggested that we plan to follow regularly on the dust control problem and should also pay close attention to the pellet situation.

Note to J. E. W.

Rich Usack was suprised to hear of our sales problems in their Dallas plant. He will call Hugh Cameron and talk to him.

Added Note

They also like the pallet overwrap and feel that it takes care of their car unloading problems and leakage problem in the storage area. No dust counts to verify this have been made, however.

typed 1/15/75
mlv

C.C. for
A.E. Pufahl
J. Sidlovsky
J.H. Stevens
R.J. Welsh
R.C. Woolery
N.J. Setter
Gould Bernard

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
CHEMICALS DIVISION

REPORT OF CALL

By Mr. R.A. Miller with Mr. B.R. Barton & Mr. Fred Thompson

Date: March 5 thru 10

Credit Dept — ☐
Tech Service Lab — ☐
Special Work Requested — ☐
Chemicals Advtg — ☐
Change Mailing List — ☐

Full Name: U.S. Gypsum Address: Galena Park, Texas Mfrs. of	Interviewed (Give full names and titles) Mr. Charles Gaertner, Process Engineer Mr. Harvey Davis, General Foreman

Designate Persons Concerned And Underline If Action Is Required

The objective of our trial at U.S. Gypsum was to demonstrate retention effects of High Purity Asbestos as evidenced by product appearance improvement and saveall efficiencies. Since their manilla board is based on a waste paper furnish, filler retention is extremely hard to evaluate.

During our initial trial in September 1966, the 2% asbestos addition apparently created drying problems which caused U.S. Gypsum to slow their machine down. In order to avoid a repetition of this situation, we mutually agreed that 1% addition should be the first level evaluated during this trial period. The effect on speed and minor freeness of 1% addition appeared negligible. Although the saveall efficiency apparently improved appreciably, it was suggested that our control period was not truly representative of their saveall's standard performance and hence should be measured during their next run of manilla board. If this period duplicates our control period for this particular trial, then we have indeed shown a significant improvement.

The next step taken during our week long effort was the elimination of one out of three of the topliner vats. The purpose behind this action was to, hopefully, achieve comparable topliner coverage with less topliner. Mr. Fred Thompson has U.S. Gypsum's machine log figures on the liner caliper which will be compared against liner caliper measured during the period January 4, through January 13. To justify our asbestos on this basis, we estimate that a reduction in caliper of at least one half point would be necessary.

Successive steps in our mill trial included raising the asbestos addition to 1½% and then 1½%. Neither of these changes appear to affect machine speed, liner freeness, caliper, or saveall performance.

(cont. next page)

N.B. DSO Note Comp. Info

As soon as Mr. Fred Thompson reports the results of his analytical work, we will visit U.S. Gypsum and review our entire effort todate. At this stage, we cannot be optimistic as to the economic justification for High Purity Asbestos in this customer's manilla board production.

Following is a summary of sample data collected during the U.S. Gypsum trial. Please note that the figures are averages calculated to correspond with the various asbestos addition levels.

RAM:bb

REEL NO'S	ASB	SPEED	LINER FREE	SOLIDS VATS	#/M GAL. LINER WHITEWATER	SAVE-ALL IN	SAVE-ALL OUT	POROSITY	SMOOTHNESS
234-250	0	405	239	32.0	10.1	4.50	1.29	1.37	35
266-320	1%	397	195	30.8	10.7	4.35	0.52	1.65	42
*322-356	1%	396	188	42.2	7.3	3.90	0.53	1.65	49
*358-190	1½%	426	211	42.3	7.7	3.73	0.49	1.29	40
*392-400	1½%	415	205	38.2	7.7	4.53	0.55	1.23	37

* Two liner vats

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REPORT OF CALL

CC for
J. E. Walsh
R. E. Byrne
W. C. Thurber
NF-File
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UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

RECEIVED
MAY 16 1973
UCC - CALIDRIA
KING CITY, CA.

By T. P. Morris

Date 5-8-73

Full Name	United States Gypsum Co.	Interviewed
Address	1000 East Northwest Hwy. Des Plaines, Ill	Dr. Earl Maynard, Research
Mfrs. of	tape joint products	

OBJECTIVE

Respond to report that USG was removing T-135 from their Textured Products.

DISCUSSION

Earl Maynard replied that the report was accurate and that wherever individual plants supplied asbestos contained products into areas prohibiting its use or restricting its sales, that these plants would now begin supplying an asbestos free product. Specifically this refers to the State of New York, which has an asbestos ban, North Eastern states, where some unions refuse to work with asbestos contained products and the West Coast, where some specifications let by the government specify asbestos free products.

To maintain our business in these areas we should seek a clarification of the New York law and investigate the alleged ban re: Gov't, Specs. from the West Coast.

REPORT OF CALL

Love

CC for
W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
KC*File
NF-File

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By J. Rittenberg (H&C)
T. P. Norris

Date 4-17-74

Full Name	U. S. Gypsum	Interviewed	
Address	4500 Ardine St. South Gate, Ca 90280		Rich Ussak-Plant Supt. Mort Higgs-Mgr.
Mfrs. of	213-588-1121		

GLV

Discussed arrival of most recent C/L, SG 210, Car # SP 203668. The car was being unloaded and we were able to take a picture showing the damaged bags in the door way. Their concern was that if an inspector had been present they could have been cited on EPA violations. In this regard they request the next C/L to be shipped with Shrink Wrap at our standard cost of $5.00/pallet. They also want

REB

to be advised on our time table for the installation of our shrink tunnel. This is important to them as they feel the greatest concentration of asbestos dust is generated during unloading of cars that have damaged or torn bags. The shrink pallet should essentially reduce this problem and they feel the $ 5.00 charge is money well spent.

JLM

As a means to better control potential dust emissions within the plant they are now requesting that we provide them with SG 210 in 35# rather than 30# bags. Four of five formulations require multiple 35# charges so that little if any left over open bags will remain in the work area.

I also volunteered we would be happy to provide a dust count, or assist in counting their own samples, as a means to double check their own counting procedures. They have their own microscope on the premises. Therefore, through Ed Kleber, we will arrange to have a dust count of their South Gate plant. This should be done soon as their is a managers meeting of all plant managers sometime late May or early June. Dr. Earl Maynard, Research Center, Des Plaines, Ill. will be present, and he is certain Asbestos will be a topic on the agenda. Dr. Maynard has expressed hopes that USG could continue with its use of SG 210, but mentioned that they along with other TJC producers, have developed replacement formulas which are asbestos free, but which also do not perform the

REPORT OF CALL

CC for

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By_____

Date_____

Full Name USG continued. PAGE 2 Address Mfrs. of	Interviewed

HR

same manner as asbestos contained TJC. These products are available but are not produced on a commercial basis as yet. I also sent Earl data on pelletized SG 210. Harry, thought you might like to touch base with Jim Cornell on this meeting to see if we could be of some assistance.

C C for

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
CHEMICALS DIVISION

FOR NEW YORK OFFICE

W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
NF*File
KC-File ✓
R. E. Byrne

K. Lebeis, H&C

REPORT OF CALL

By: T. P. Norris

Date: 8-22-74

Credit Dept. ☐
Tech. Service Lab. ☐
Special Work Requested ☐
Chemicals Advtg. ☐
Change Mailing List ☐

Full Name	U. S. Gypsum
Address	South Gate, Ca
Mfrs. of	TJC

Interviewed (Give full names and titles)
Rich Ussak, Paint Supt.
Earl Maynard, Des Plaines, Il
Research

Designate Persons Concerned And Underline If Action Is Required

The purpose of this call was to determine lack of sales of SG 210.

U.S.G. business is down as is many other mud producers because of slowdown in home starts, and a corporate edict to carry no more than a 30 day inventory of any raw material. He formerly carried a minimum of 2 C/L SG 210. His inventory is now down to 55,000 #, his current use is running at 60,000#/month, so late this month or early Sept. a release will be made. This next car will have the 3 pallets of 35# bags; these pallets should be clearly marked to show the difference between the normal bag weight of 30#. Also shrink wrap pallets @ $5.00 per will become standard.

Earl Maynard from their Research Lab was also present and discussion in depth of Cal-OSHA, and Oregon-OSHA again brought to light the serious problems facing mud producers on the West Coast and the Gypsum Drywall Contractors International (GDCI). We were advised Oregon had an injunction against the contractors using asbestos contained muds, and that the supplier (later found to be Hamilton Materials) had to supply asbestos free muds. For clarification see ROC on State of Oregon. Earl also discussed availability of T 135. Having just learned of its availability Aug 20, assured him it was again in inventory, and we could supply through '74, but would come back to him on what '75 looked like. They have apparently a dispersion problem with dry TiO_2, and

N.B. DSO Note Comp. Info

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C C for

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
CHEMICALS DIVISION

FOR NEW YORK OFFICE

REPORT OF CALL

By: _____

Date: _____

Credit Dept. — ☐
Tech. Service Lab. — ☐
Special Work Requested — ☐
Chemicals Advtg. — ☐
Change Mailing List — ☐

Full Name / Address / Mfrs. of	Interviewed (Give full names and titles)
U.S. Gypsum	

Designate Persons Concerned And Underline If Action Is Required

the T 135 solves some production problems. H&C as well as ourselves will follow up closely on this.

We also discussed the Dallas plant, inquiring as to why no one with authority could give positive statements as to why we were not sharing in that business. Earl assured me the ball is in the Dallas court, as we are on the approved list as an alternate supplier. Formulations are written around SG 210, they have used it in the past, and he reasons it is strictly a matter of economics. If so we should obtain our net, net price delvd., using hopefully new revised freight rates listing our SG 210 as waste rather than shorts and thus qualifing for lower rates all over the country. It is fairly obvious that the Canadians enjoy lower rates into the U.S., than we do within our own borders.

N.B. DSO Note Comp. Info