C. S. BOWDEN
773/101A

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
HEALTH, SAFETY/ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

To: All R/D Personnel

Date: November 11, 1986

From: P. D. Sherman

Subject: S A F E T Y A L E R T
ASBESTOS

cc: P. D. Gossage
L. A. Kapicak
F. P. Macfarlane
M. A. Patel

ASBESTOS containing materials such as insulation, gaskets, packing, heat tapes and hot gloves are commonly found in the laboratory. Recently, OSHA has amended its ASBESTOS standard by reducing the permissible exposure from 2 fibers/cc to 0.2 fibers/cc -- a significant reduction. At the Technical Center, ASBESTOS insulation is no longer installed, and every effort is made to control ASBESTOS materials already installed or in use.

However, your help is needed. Safer materials are available as substitutes for the materials identified above -- please use them. You should check the equipment or pipes in your area of responsibility for broken insulation. If ANY insulation is found to be broken, please consult with the Industrial Hygiene Group (Manhar Patel, Ext. 3750) to ascertain whether the material is indeed ASBESTOS. If so, there are certain procedures which MUST be followed (Services Manual, Procedure 6.10.9, 6/23/86), and the bad insulation should be encapusulated promptly or replaced to minimize exposure of personnel to ASBESTOS. This work must be done ONLY by those in the Services Department who are specifically trained to handle ASBESTOS.

DO NOT REPAIR, ALTER OR REMOVE ANY INSULATION WITHOUT FIRST ESTABLISHING THAT IT IS FREE OF ASBESTOS

I have requested that Manhar Patel issue a revised R/D Safety and Health Manual procedure covering the actions to take regarding ASBESTOS. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please feel free to call Manhar (3750) or me (4039).

P. D. Sherman
HS/EA Manager - R/D

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