PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

UC-4536

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ASBESTOS IDENTIFICATION IN OLD CALSIL INSULATION*

Because of the health hazards involved in working with asbestos, it is essential that old asbestos-containing calsil be properly identified to avoid accidental worker exposure during maintenance or removal procedures.

Prior to the early seventies, all calcium silicate insulation, and several other types as well, contained asbestos as the reinforcing fiber. Most of the asbestos used was chrysotile, but other types such as crocidolite and amosite were also used. All are hazardous to health.

Since the early seventies, all manufacturers have switched to either glass or organic fibers for reinforcement. Because of the refractory nature of asbestos fibers, they are not destroyed by the flame from a propane (Bernzomatic) torch. Rather, they glow as little incandescent rods in the propane flame. Since the newer fibers -- glass, rayon, polyester, cotton, etc. -- are destroyed by the propane flame, this provides an easy means of positive identification for asbestos.

The simple procedure is as follows.

1. Break a small piece of insulation off a section of calsil.

2. Heat the broken surface with the flame from a propane torch.

3. Observe. Figure 1 shows asbestos-containing material. The material in Figure 2 does not contain asbestos.

4. With some experience, a good worker can break off a chunk of insulation and tell by eye whether or not asbestos is present. A small magnifier makes the process even simpler to carry out.

*NOTE: Since December, 1978, the Pabco Division started to mark all of their Super Caltemp production with an identifying green stripe that shows it is asbestos free.

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