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Antioch Works,
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ANTIOCH

cc: R. N. Franz } in
Insulation File } turn

December 1, 1966

TO: L. A. GERLACH

FROM: W. C. GRANT *WCG*

USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS AT ANTIOCH WORKS

With reference to the questions about the use of asbestos and other insulating materials, asked by C. A. D'Alonzo, M.D. of the Medical Division, Employee Relations Department of Wilmington, the following is offered to describe our use of these materials at Antioch:

- a. We have no full time insulators.
- b. In 1965 we had at year end 111 mechanics who could have been called upon to work on insulation. We had approximately 2,400 man hours charged to thermal insulation work - approximately 22 hours/mechanic/year. The majority of the insulation is done in the TEL Area and it is estimated that a mechanic could be assigned to this work for as much as 100 hours in a year.
- c. The three most prevalent types of insulation are:
 1. "Cal-Temp" - Calcium Silicate
 2. Urathene
 3. Zonolite

Our use of asbestos is as follows:

Asbestos Cloth - In the TEL Area, pre-fabricated forms made out of "Cal-Temp" insulation are used to enclose heated valves and short sections of curved pipe. Asbestos cloth is applied to the outside of these forms. A sealer is applied to the asbestos cloth as a finish.

Asbestos Tape - Used in the TEL Area to wrap valves and short sections of pipe that are heated by electrical serpentine heaters. Approximately 594 pounds per year are used in 1/2", 3/4" and 3" widths.

Asbestos Suits - Used in the TEL Area as a safety suit when breaking into pipe lines that could contain molten lead or sodium - lead alloy. The suit includes a hood, boots and mittens - all of which are made of rubber lined or backed asbestos cloth. These suits are used approximately 3 times a week by maintenance people, for approximately 10 minutes.

Asbestos Packing and Gaskets -

Compressed Asbestos Gaskets - Asbestos fiber in an elastomer binder.

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Asbestos Packing - Usually impregnated with mineral oil and graphite or 35% "Teflon".

Asbestos Short Fibers - (Johns-Manville 7M)
This material is purchased in bag form and is used by an outside brick contractor. He mixes it with mortar to be used on refractory bricks when repairing the Virgin Melt Furnace. Approximately 16 bags a year are used. Each bag weighs 100 pounds.

Asbestos Blankets - Welders, at times, will use an asbestos blanket to throw over flammable material to prevent sparks from starting a fire.

Blankets are also used when mechanics have to work on top of a pot cover in the TEL Area. This may happen several times a year.

The asbestos cloth used for blankets comes in rolls 40" wide and is also used to cover pre-fabricated "Cal-Temp" insulation. A total of 250 yards a year are used.

- d. We have not done any spraying of insulation materials on the plant.
- e. We are not aware of any maintenance people having experienced any health problems because of exposure to dust from insulation.
- f. We do not require any special breathing protective equipment when working with insulation. The biggest potential problem we have had is insulation dust getting in the mechanics' eyes even when using side shield goggles.

WCG:r

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