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ASBESTOS IN SHIPBUILDING

United States Practices, 1930's -- 1970's

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See sample pages and indices on the next several pages.

This book identifies and factually summarizes the key documents, articles, papers and books that are central to understanding the factors and considerations pertaining to the use of asbestos in U.S. shipbuilding between the 1930's and the 1970's. Summary statistics of U.S. shipbuilding in that period are also presented. This book will give the reader sufficient information to address these questions, among others:

- What factors and considerations promoted and advanced the use of asbestos in the U.S. shipbuilding industry since the 1930's?
- Why did the epidemiological studies of the 1960's result in such significantly different recommended particle exposure limits when compared to the earlier (pre-1940's) studies?
- Which entities recommended, encouraged, required and/or selected the use of asbestos in U.S. shipbuilding?
- Why did the use of asbestos in the U.S. shipbuilding industry continue into the 1970's after the long-term health risks associated with its use were more clearly identified in the 1960's?

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Introduction by Dr. Kenneth W. Fisher, Editor

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Available from Fisher Maritime Transportation Counselors, Inc.
DATE PUBLISHED: September 1, 1943
AUTHORED BY: Division of Labor Standards
PUBLISHED BY: U.S. Department of Labor

ABSTRACT:
The introduction to the standards stated that they were "advisory in nature" and "intended to supplement existing requirements under State and Federal laws, rules, and regulations." Requirements for fire prevention containment included the use of "fire-resistant materials in new construction." Plants using processes which produce injurious dusts should either (1) change the process so as to substitute harmless for toxic materials or (2) catch the dusts at the point of origin and remove them to a safe point of discharge by means of local exhaust ventilation, or (3) isolate the process so as to reduce the discharge by means of local exhaust ventilation, or (3) isolate the process so as to reduce the discharge by means of local exhaust ventilation.

DATE PUBLISHED: 13 August 1971
AUTHORED BY: U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration
PUBLISHED BY: U.S. Department of Labor
DOCUMENT NAME: Vol. 36 Federal Register - Section 1910.93 amended

ABSTRACT:
Section 1910.93 is amended to include a formula for calculating the Time Weighted Average Exposure for employers to use when determining the Threshold Limit Values for Carcinogens.

DATE PUBLISHED: November 4, 1953
AUTHORED BY: Hueper, W.C. MD, discussion, Proceedings of the Scientific Session/Annual Meeting
PUBLISHED BY: American Cancer Society, Inc.
DOCUMENT NAME: Cancer of the Lung: An Evaluation of the Problem - Potential Occupational Factors in Lung Cancer

ABSTRACT:
The meeting centered around the discussion of potential occupational factors in lung cancer. Table I listed carcinogens and possible carcinogens. Asbestos was listed with a "?" next to it indicating that it was a possible cause of lung cancer. Figure 1 listed various occupations involving known or suspected carcinogens. Asbestos was listed as being...
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**Example of Summaries**

- **DATE PUBLISHED:** 1953
- **AUTHORED BY:** U.S. Navy
- **PUBLISHED BY:** U.S. Navy
- **DOCUMENT NAME:** Specifications for the Construction of a Navy Refrigerated Stores Ship, Design R3-S-4a

**ABSTRACT:**

- 261. Asbestos insulation shall be composed of asbestos fibers . . . .

- **DATE PUBLISHED:** November 1962
- **AUTHORED BY:** Asbestos Worker, The
- **PUBLISHED BY:** Asbestos Worker, The
- **DOCUMENT NAME:** The Asbestos Worker, Vol. XVI, No. 1: Convention Issue, Proceedings and Highlights/ 20th Int'l Convention

**ABSTRACT:**

Report of Health Hazards committee. The recommendation for a study on the health hazards involved in the asbestos industry was carried out through meetings of an International committee. "Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, a specialist in internal medicine, is conducting investigations." The President's recommendation that this investigation be continued. "If left to his own devices he [the engineer] will do his best . . . ."

- **DATE PUBLISHED:** Nov. 2, 1936
- **AUTHORED BY:** Air Hygiene Foundation
- **PUBLISHED BY:** Air Hygiene Foundation of America, Inc., Preventive Engineering Series, Bulletin No. 1
- **DOCUMENT NAME:** Measurement and Control of Industrial Dusts

**ABSTRACT:**

The bulletin took a broad look at the data available on occupational dust diseases, especially silicosis. It then concentrated on preventive measures beginning with limits and proper engineering. "In diseases such as silicosis and asbestosis, particles must reach the alveoli or no silicosis or asbestosis results." If the breathing of dust causes disability of any sort silicosis is only one manifestation then it follows that there must be some degree of air cleanliness from which no disability will result to the average man during the average working period." If left to his own devices he [the engineer] will do his best . . . ."
<table>
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<td>1937</td>
<td>Committee on Commerce, chaired by Mr. Copeland</td>
<td>U.S. Senate, 75th Congress</td>
<td>MORRO CASTLE and MOHAWK Investigations, Final Preliminary Report, Senate Report 184</td>
<td>Investigation into the disasters of MORRO CASTLE, MOHAWK</td>
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<td>1938</td>
<td>Committee on Regulatory and Administrative Phases of the Silicosis Problem</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Labor Standards</td>
<td>National Silicosis Conference, Report on Regulatory and Administrative Phases, Bulletin No. 21, Part 4</td>
<td>State requirements for health and safety together with statutory provisions relating to dust control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Lanza, A.J., editor, and various authors</td>
<td>Oxford University Press</td>
<td>Silicosis and Asbestosis</td>
<td>Prominent Book about Asbestosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>U.S. Congress</td>
<td>U.S. Government Printing Office</td>
<td>Specifications for the construction of a single screw Passenger and Cargo Vessel: Design C-3</td>
<td>USMC Published specifications for design C-3 steam propulsion</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>Waters, Theodore C., attorney</td>
<td>Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America, Inc.</td>
<td>Current Status of Compensation for Pneumoconioses</td>
<td>Asbestos is being included as pneumoconiosis for compensation laws</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>The Asbestos Worker, Vol. XVI, No. 5: Navy Takes Labor Leaders on Orientation Cruise</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker article reports on executive order granting federal employees the right to join unions</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>The Asbestos Worker, Vol. XVI, No. 2: Niagara Power Plant</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker article reports on progress of survey of insulation workers' lungs</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>The Asbestos Worker, Vol. XVI, No. 9</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker article reports on high incidence of cancer in asbestos insulation workers</td>
</tr>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>Asbestos Worker, The</td>
<td>The Asbestos Worker, Vol. XVI, No. 6</td>
<td>Asbestos worker article reports on study of insulation workers lung problems; to be published early that year by the AMA Association between cancer and asbestos validated by study of insulation workers' death and cancer rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Addington, C.G.</td>
<td>New York Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>Dust Measurement and Monitoring in the Asbestos Industry</td>
<td>Dust filters and detection techniques barely adequate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Enterline, P.E.</td>
<td>New York Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>Mortality Among Asbestos Product Workers in the United States</td>
<td>Threat to asbestos workers higher than cotton workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Gilson, J.C.</td>
<td>New York Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>Problems and Perspectives: The Changing Hazards of Exposure to Asbestos</td>
<td>Asbestos safeguards must be put in place for all</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Example of Summaries

Workers' Health Hazards - Today and Tomorrow: Detection and Control of Silicosis and Other Occupational Diseases

This paper covers what New York State had done and the job ahead regarding workers' health hazards. New York State had begun a program of examining workers exposed to dust hazards including asbestos. They recommended ventilation as the best method to control the hazard. They are setting up standards with the industry to control dusts. The Labor Law provides that no new ventilating system may be installed or an existing one modified which has been permitted for examination and received the approval of the Division.

The use of TLVs as legal standards has been opposed by the ACGIH. Despite this opposition, the TLVs were first promulgated as federal health standards in the 1960 Walsh-Healy Public Contracts Act. The TLV Committee made every effort to avoid the use of TLVs as legal standards that would be rigidly applied without professional judgement. The fallacy in such an application of TLVs lies in the fact that they will be employed as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations. Such strict interpretation is within the intent expressed in the standard that shall set the established for such chemicals. OSHA does not preface to the TLVs, and places industry in undue jeopardy. OSHA does not require that human exposure to all chemicals capable of causing cancer in animals or man be standard.

Committee on Commerce, chaired by Mr. Copeland
U.S. Senate, 75th Congress
MORRO CASTLE and MOHAWK Investigations, Report to the Technical Committee on Safety at Sea to the Subcommittee on Department of Commerce and Merchant Marine of the Senate Committee on Commerce
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In one easy-to-use volume, the consolidated results of significant research into the archives of numerous governmental agencies and professional organizations. Research that could cost your organization over $150,000 is now available at a fraction of that cost.

Archive Sources

The identified and summarized papers come from a wide range of sources, including, among others, the archives of these organizations and, as appropriate, their predecessor and/or successor organizations:

- American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
- American Medical Association
- American Society of Safety Engineers
- American Standards Association
- Bureau of Labor Standards
- Bureau of Marine Inspection
- Bureau of Mines
- Coast Guard
- Department of Commerce and Industry
- Department of Health, Education and Welfare
- Department of Labor
- Industrial (Air) Hygiene Foundation of America
- Maritime Administration
- Maritime Commission
- National Institute of Health
- National Institute of Safety and Health
- National Safety Council
- Naval Shipyards
- Navy Department
- New York Academy of Sciences
- Occupational Safety and Health Admin.
- Public Health Service
- War Shipping Administration

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