

## INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE WALK-THROUGH REPORT

PLANT NAME: Cyprus Industrial Minerals Company, Bay Street Mill

LOCATION: Los Angeles, California

PURPOSE: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in cooperation with the Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration (MESA) has underway a preliminary study of the talc mining and milling industry. As part of this study NIOSH is conducting walk-through surveys to compile necessary data in an effort to characterize talc composition in the U.S.

NIOSH PERSONNEL: Howard R. Ludwig, Thomas E. Sandusky

### PLANT HISTORY AND PROCESS:

Cyprus Mines Corporation acquired the Bay Street Mill from Sierra Talc in 1964. This mill has been in operation since 1919 and currently grinds different blends and grades of talc for use in paints and tile.

The Bay Street Mill currently has 9 employees working during 2 or 3 shifts per day. Stockpiled talc (majority of talc is Panamint) is fed into the crusher (passing 3/4" to 2") where it is conveyed by elevator to a bin where it is dropped through a Raymond Roller mill (200 mesh to 325 mesh) before being bagged. If a finer product is required the talc is also passed through a Raymond Vertical mill (4 to 6½ Hegman) and bagged.

HEALTH HAZARDS: Potentially excessive dust and noise exposure.

PERSONNEL RECORDS: Includes Social Security numbers, work histories, and lost time accident data back to at least 1964 when mill was acquired.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. An audiometric hearing program should be instituted to ascertain the effectiveness of current hearing protection.
2. Dust levels in the air could be reduced by increasing the exhaust ventilation around the packing machines.

Work Sheet  
for  
Preliminary Industrial Hygiene  
Survey of

Plant Name: Cyprus Industrial Minerals Company, Bay Street Mill

City, State: Los Angeles, California

Survey Date: July 22, 1976

Survey Conducted By: Howard R. Ludwig  
Thomas E. Sandusky

Industrial Hygiene Section  
Industry-Wide Studies Branch  
Division of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations and Field Studies  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
Cincinnati, Ohio

I. General:

1. Establishment Name Cyprus Industrial Minerals Co., Bay Street Mill  
Location # 21

Address 2143 Bay Street City Los Angeles

State California Zip Code 90021 Telephone Number 213/622-8986

2. Persons Interviewed Rudolf Arellanez, Superintendent

3. A) Union Representative: John F. Heron

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

B) Name of Union Teamsters Local 986

5. NIOSH Staff Present Howard R. Ludwig, Thomas E. Sandusky

II. Plant Description:

1. Is plant a subsidiary X independently owned \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent company Cyprus Mines Corporation

Legal Owner Cyprus Mines Corporation

2. Date plant built 1919 by Pacific Coast Talc Co.. Acquired 1940 by  
Sierra Talc, and in 1964 by Cyprus.

... Date of plant additions \_\_\_\_\_

3. Acreage of plant site \_\_\_\_\_

4. Number of major buildings 2 Total Square Feet 20,000

5. A) How many people are on your payroll at the present time? 9

B) Of this number, how many are normally in the

Production Area? 7

Administrative Area? 2

Other Areas? 0

6. Number of Shifts 3 on Vertical mill, 2 on roller mill

7. Number of employees/shifts? 5-2-2

III. Description of Process:

1. What are your major products or services? (list)

Different sizes of talc to be used in paints and tile.

95% of talc is from Death Valley (Panamint)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Plant Processes

A) Product \_\_\_\_\_

Raw materials and possible contaminants

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Production Processes The talc ore is shipped in by train and truck and  
stockpiled in the yard. A payloader feeds the talc into the crusher  
(passing 3/4" to 2"). Then it is conveyed by elevator to a bin from where  
it is dropped through a Raymond Roller mill (200 mesh or 325 mesh) before  
being bagged. If a finer product is required the talc is also passed  
through a Raymond Vertical mill (4 to 6 1/4 Hegman) and bagged.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B) Product \_\_\_\_\_

Raw materials and possible contaminants

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Types of Talc Processed

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

C-400 2.5 to 3.5 Hegman (paints)  
C-500 3.0 to 4.0 Hegman (paints) 5% Vanderbilt Talc (soft LB)  
Furnace Creek 100% Panamint 94.5% to 96.5% passing 200 mesh (tile)  
Furnace Creek Coarse 68.0 to 74.0% passing 200 mesh (Tile)  
Mistron MSC - Vetical mill 5.5 to 6.5 Hegman (Paints)  
Mistron T-076 5.0 to 6.0 Hegman (Paints)  
Mistron F-128 4.5 to 5.5 Hegman (Paints)  
Mistron 139 4.0 to 5.0 Hegman (Paints)

IV. Description of Medical, Safety and Industrial Hygiene Programs:

1. A) Does your company employ an industrial hygienist?

Yes, at this location\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, at corporate headquarters\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, on a consulting basis\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, insurance carrier\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, specify\_\_\_\_\_

No X

B) Name\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

- C) What types of measurements are routinely taken? Explain.

Cyprus Lab is located at 2435 Military Avenue, L.A. Cal.

MESA (Jerald A. Droussel) - air samples, noise

L.A. County Air Pollution Control - W.R. Anderson, E.R. Johnson

D) Were industrial hygiene measurements obtained: Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No X

2. Do you have an agreement with a physician to give your employees emergency or other medical care?

Yes, at this location--full-time\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, at this location--part-time\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, on call X

No           

Name George L. Beharry Telephone Number (213) 749-1144

Address Suite 409, California Medical Bldg., 1401 South Hope St.,  
L.A. Cal. 90015

3. Do you have a licensed nurse in your facility at a regular time?

Yes, Full-time            Yes, Part-time            No X

4. Do you have an employee at this facility on each shift with formal first aid training, other than doctors or nurses, who has been designated to provide emergency treatment?

Yes            No X

5. When you hire a new employee, do you require him to take a medical examination?

Yes, all employees X

Yes, some employees           

No           

6. Do you provide any periodic physical examinations for your employees?

Yes X No            How Often           

7. Do you provide special job related medical tests for your employees, such as:

Chest X-Ray Yes X No           

Hearing Tests Yes            No X

Visual Tests Yes            No X

Lung Function Tests Yes            No X

Blood Tests Yes            No X

Urine Tests Yes            No X

Other Yes            No X

Specify:           

8. A) Does your company have a formal safety program? Yes X No

B) Safety and Health Supervisor Superintendent

C) How many people are involved in this program? All personnel

D) How many lost-time accidents did you have last year?

Frequency 1 Severity 6-8 wks off - Dislocated shoulder while shoveling.

9. Has there been any medical abnormalities among workers which can be contributed to an occupational exposure? No

Explain \_\_\_\_\_

10. What protective equipment is required:

Equipment Provided by Employer

Clothing Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

Glasses (goggles) Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Shoes Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Respirators Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Type MSA Dustfoe 66

Where Used Packing and crushing areas

Other Hearing protection (plugs), hard hats, gloves

11. A) Are there facilities for taking showers?

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

B) Are there facilities for changing clothes?

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

C) Obtained descriptive literature on products?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

V. Narrative:

1. Description of Medical, Safety and Industrial Hygiene Program:

There is a formal safety program, and pre-employment physicals and annual chest x-rays are required

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2. Potential Health Hazards:

Dust and Noise

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3. Have product lines changed over the years? (If they have, include any other raw materials used).

Mainly Panamint talc processed for last 5-6 years.

Used to get talc from Grantham Mine (fibrous).

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4. Are waste products reused: (If not, how are they disposed?)

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5. Briefly describe any past air sampling data.

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6. Completeness of Personnel Records:

Social Security Numbers - Yes

Work History - Yes

Lost Time Accident Data - Yes

Records Available Since 1964 at least

7. Ventilation: (Include type, size, kinds of collectors, H.P. of blowers, history of changes, etc.)

Ventilation around bagging machines with bag houses to control emission to outside atmosphere

8. Housekeeping:

Very little talc spillage on floor noted during walk-through.

9. Miscellaneous: