

# Johnson & Johnson

BABY PRODUCTS COMPANY

January 15, 1982

SKILLMAN, N. J. 08558

SUBJECT: Commitments for Planning Purposes

TO: Mr. G. Lee

to

Dr. B. Semple

to

Mr. W. H. Ashton

This covers most of the external activities in which I have been engaged lately. I want to sum up the matter for your budget planning and also to obtain your permission to continue the activities outlined. This projection looks ahead about two years.

A. ASTM Activities

1. OSHA Committee E-34

I have been a charter member of this for the past ten years. Our objective has been to keep talc out of the asbestos standard which has been under development. We have been very successful in that regard and the ASTM standard now is in its final stages. There is a meeting of this committee this March in Williamsburg, Virginia to take up final negative comments after which the standard will go through ASTM system and issue as a final specification. Normally there are two meetings per year. There is talk, but no decision, that the group will develop a standard for asbestos/talc minerals such as tremolite after we finish the current standard aimed at chrysotile. Consequently, there will be travel expenditures to attend the activities of this group to keep talc out of the matter.

2. Analysis of Atmospheres Committee D22.04

This group has been developing standards to measure (1) talc dust and (2) environmental dusts in the workplace and is related to the ASTM OSHA group E-34. Mr. Oulton

of Engelhard was chairman and left the work unfinished when he died. ASTM has appointed me acting Chairman of that Task Group and I understand there is technology to resolve and to finalize both on the talc standard and on the dust standard which envelopes talc. There are also two meetings of the group per year at a different city each time. I imagine there is no question that I have to continue that work on our behalf. There is a meeting of this group in Dearborn, Michigan this April 12 to 15 at which I have to Chair the committee. I imagine the meeting in October 1982 will be in Philadelphia.

3. Committee D22.09

Advisory to International Standards Organization

I have recently been invited to become a member of this group as a result of my recent penetration into the ISO talc/asbestos situation. I am not too keen on getting into ASTM 22.09 and would do so only when it meets around the same time and place as the former groups.

B. AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION (AIHA)

As you know, I have now finished the Talc Guide after two years of input and hope to see this in print in the next couple of months. I see no major travel or meetings directly involved but understand there will be a yearly updating of the Guide. At worst, the work will require a visit or two to New York City or to Norwalk, Connecticut to go over updating with R. T. Vanderbilt staff.

C. U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

I would hope that this corporation has appreciated the tremendous contacts I have built up in the key Federal agencies who research or regulate talc and its associate minerals. Although the climate is quiet at the moment there are new rumors that a talc standard will be reactivated.

My regular visits to Washington, D.C. and a few other places directly monitored activities of OSHA, MSHA, EPA, NIOSH and Departments of Interior, Commerce and Labor. As you know, I am probably the only industrial scientist in our field who has a 25 year reputation with the Bureau of Mines and can obtain needed assistance in a variety of ways because of my reputation with them.

I recommend that I continue to make a quarterly visit to Washington to keep the contacts and provide anticipatory information valuable to our company.

D. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATION (ISO)

You are up on the current Fiber Standard which ISO has in process and how it endangers talc here and abroad. It reduces talc fragments to asbestos fiber status. Currently I now have firm commitment from the U.S. Bureau of Mines that they will assist us officially at an upcoming meeting in May in Montreal. At the May meeting it is expected that we will be able to convince the ISO group that the standard has to have major revision to provide the technical soundness required. The standard may take a year or two to revise and to finalize.

In the meanwhile, I have been appointed as one of the U.S. delegation to the ISO Technical Committee and am expected to attend not only the Montreal meeting but the subsequent meetings also. The next general meeting at which the Fiber Standard should be in final draft form is to be in Helsinki in May 1983. There may be another meeting before or after that but the Montreal and Helsinki are the most important for talc as I now read it.



William H. Ashton

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