

Hochstrasser, John - Cinti / UP

From: Biscopink, Jerry - Cinti  
To: Christ, Jeff - Cinti; Farrell, Paul - Cinti  
Cc: Anglea, Tim - Lakeland; Ball, Don - Cinti; Dees, Janice - Cinti; Griggs, Mike - Cinti;  
Hand, Todd - Cinti; Hochstrasser, John - Cinti  
Subject: Spray Dry Dust Situation  
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 1995 7:11PM

Today Todd Hand and this writer took an extended tour of the plant. We will be finishing the tour tomorrow but we did complete spray dry. In general the area was in very good condition and all employees were working in a safe and professional manner. One exception did exist and it is very disturbing.

The large blend room was blending a butter flavor which I understand is very dusty by nature. The room when observed was in horrible condition. While there was not a large amount of visible dust in the air, there was product all over the floor and everything was coated with a fine layer of powder. Just walking into the room it was difficult for me to breath. In the room were two Tastemaker employees packing off without any type of respiratory protection. Todd immediately put them in dust masks and I felt like they were adequately protected at this point.

I asked Don Ball to check out the system and to tell me if this was the best the dust collection system could do. Don immediately went to work investigating the system and found it to be completely inoperative due to plugged vacuum pipes. He is working with Mike Griggs to get this fixed tomorrow as a priority item.

The dust in the rest of the plant was non-existent demonstrating excellent dust control in other areas. I want to make a couple of important points.

1) Our employees and leads are using very poor judgement as to when respiratory protection should be used in this plant. Paul and Jeff and the leads must get this resolved. This situation was so obvious that it is ridiculous that Todd and this writer had to tell the employees to get into this gear.

2) This is not an engineering problem but a maintenance problem. The facts are however that no one had even notified maintenance of the issue. Not a pretty picture. Huge dust problem-no response by highly paid seasoned operators/leads etc, Jeff must address this issue. Don will install manometers so that vacuum reading can be checked but Don cannot install common sense into the production operation.

Jeff and Paul have deliverables due immediately. Our employees health is at stake here!!!!!!! JFB

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