fibers encapsulated with elastomeric or other binders. But when operations are performed on these materials such as cutting or abrading, no amount or type of binder can totally prevent fibrous particles from entering the air and possibly being respired into the lungs.

VICTOR is well on the way to having available a complete line of non-asbestos containing gasket materials that have the same good physical properties and do the same job of engine sealing as asbestos-containing products. Advantages of asbestos include high heat resistance, crush resistance, good dimensional stability, and relatively low cost. The goal in selecting non-asbestos materials to perform the same jobs as asbestos is to optimize these properties, emphasizing particular characteristics for materials of various intended uses.

It is our goal to be completely out of the use of asbestos by the end of 1987, having completed the conversion of all asbestos-containing gaskets to non-asbestos versions by that date. All Aftermarket soft gaskets are now made of non-asbestos materials, and the changeover of steel-reinforced composite materials is proceeding. The conversion of OE parts is also underway, and will continue until complete.