

Abex

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

AB-225

Arthur J. Kelly
Abex Corporation

American Brakeblok Division

900 WEST MAPLE ROAD, TROY, MICHIGAN 48064

January 14, 1972

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British Friction Materials Council
99, Aldwych
London, WC2B 4JY

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Gentlemen:

Your letter of December 8, 1971 addressed to the Society of Automotive Engineers regarding your views on the proposed Illinois State Regulations concerning asbestos products, has been forwarded to me. I apologize for the somewhat slow acknowledgment of your letter but wanted to discuss it at our Subcommittee meeting which is held during the SAE Annual Congress in Detroit.

We appreciate very much your comments and some of the attached information was new to us and of considerable interest. There are, however, a few things with which you should be aware if you have not already been advised. First, the Illinois Pollution Control Board has withdrawn the proposal covering the banning of asbestos in brake lining. This was due principally to the fact that a number of brake lining manufacturers presented data along the same lines you furnished in that there is insufficient proof that products of wear from asbestos brake lining do cause any harmful levels of pollution.

The second fact that you probably are not aware of, is that the Society of Automotive Engineers do not comment in any way on any proposed legislation. The position of SAE is quite simple in that their task is to develop recommended practices and standards which are for the use of anyone including government agencies. They definitely do not take any stand or any position with regard to any proposed or actual legislation. This very firm policy is the reason why SAE would not forward your comments to the Illinois Pollution Control Board. As it turned out, because that proposal covering the use of asbestos in brake linings after 1975 was dropped, it was not necessary to forward this information.

I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of your attachments to the Friction Materials Standards Institute, Inc., as they were active and instrumental in getting this proposal removed. I am sure they will be interested in this data for their files. In the future when you have

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